

# Local Government Service

No. 17

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Vol. XV

## WESTON - SUPER - MARE

Where N.A.L.G.O.'s Annual Conference Will Meet



Mr. S. M. HARDING,  
Treasurer Somerset C.C., Chairman of  
Somerset Branch N.A.L.G.O.

FROM Edinburgh, where the annual conference of the National Association of Local Government Officers was held last year, to Weston-super-Mare, where delegates will assemble for the conference to be held on May 14 and 16 next, is a far cry in more senses than one; but this much these towns have in common, each is a centre of a countryside which occupies a pre-eminent place in the vivid record of the pageantry of centuries. To appreciate Weston, apart from those merits which are peculiarly its own, it is necessary to visualise something of the county of which it is an enterprising and progressive unit. Somerset, famous the world over in song and story, is a county of contrasts. Here are to be found the busy market town, the fashionable watering-place, a famous inland spa, quaint old-world villages and hamlets, and the up-to-date manufacturing town. It is, moreover, a county of retiring charms, for many of its delightful scenes lie off the beaten track.

With its mediæval remains, historical associations, ecclesiastical traditions, scenes of eventful achievements, and evidence of progress on every hand—and particularly in the sphere of civic administration—the county certainly presents a picture of strange inconsistencies. For a combination of attractions to satisfy the varied tastes of visitors it would be hard to find a county to beat Somerset. Delegates who are able to spare the time will find Weston an ideal centre for visiting many of the celebrated places within the county. Close at hand is fashionable Minehead, from which may be explored the rolling wastes of Exmoor, gorgeous with ever-changing colours. More than once the destiny of England has been decided among the fens of Somerset, and the visitor to Sedgemoor will find scenes to stimulate meditation on a bygone day. There must be few who can leave the county without viewing the grandeur of Cheddar Gorge, twelve miles from Weston, and the fascinating caves of Wookey Hole, eighteen miles from the town, and a place of great antiquarian interest, where certain discoveries, it is said, have proved it to be the home of man thirty thousand years ago.

There are towns in Somerset that have an individuality and interest, and, indeed, an enthralling charm, all their own. Bath may no longer fill its former proud position as a great centre of fashion, but it is much more than a provincial city and still retains a great deal of its previous regal dignity. Of Wells it has been said that if Somerset had nothing else to boast of than this old-world cathedral city it would never lack visitors, for it seems to have descended from the middle ages almost intact, preserving with remarkable fidelity its ancient ecclesiastical atmosphere. Then, again, the discriminating visitor will not miss Glastonbury. Renowned as the birthplace of British Christianity, and formerly the embodiment of ecclesiastical pageantry and splendour, Glastonbury is now a prim little modern town, affording a striking contrast to Wells, which still remains predominantly mediæval. Indeed, it has been suggested that to pass from Wells to Glastonbury the visitor traverses several centuries.

It is impossible to mention all the places within reach of Weston that delegates who may be making their first acquaintance with Somerset may wish to visit; but reference should be made to Bridgwater, another town of old-world charm, with forbidding memories of Sedgemoor, and now a combination of seaport and market town. Readers will remember that it was from the tower of Bridgwater Church that the Duke of Monmouth witnessed the approach of the Royal troops, and from which a few days later he went to his doom. Altogether, the countryside is one that is invested with glamour and interest, and it is in this kaleidoscopic setting that the visitor will conjure up a picture of Weston-super-Mare.

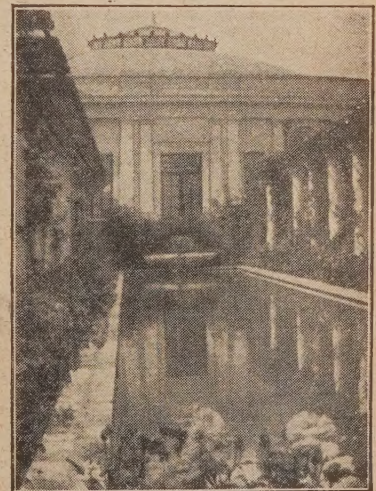
### A PROGRESSIVE TOWN

Weston lies on the shore of the Bristol Channel and gets its generous share of the invigorating westerly breezes from the Atlantic ocean. One of the advantages claimed for it is that it is singularly fortunate in the protection afforded from the cold winds of the north and east by the sheltering arms of Worlebury Hill and Brean Down. It has been called the "Brighton of Bristol." But it is much more than that. Its reputation extends far beyond the confines of Somerset. It is an excellent testimonial to the town's claim to be one of the healthiest in England that during a recent year practically one-half of the people who died were over 70 years of age—or, to be precise, between 70 and 105! The largest seaside resort on the ocean coast between Lancashire and Land's End, it owes a good deal of its popularity to the magic properties of its tonic air. The average range of mean temperature is low, namely 11.5 degrees. The yearly rainfall averages 32.8 in., and the average yearly total of sunshine exceeds 1,500 hours. It is said that the peculiarity of Weston is that at low tide an immense tract of beach is left exposed, and there is a large proportion of iodine deposited, which can be readily detected by its aroma. The tide rises to a great height in the Channel, and at Birnbeck Pier the average is 35 ft. Taking Weston Bay as 2,500 acres in extent, it is estimated that there occurs four times a day a displacement

of about four million cu. ft. of air by the rise and fall of the tides, ensuring a change and purification of the air of the town in even the calmest summer weather.

In many respects Weston is a progressive town, and notably in the sphere of civic administration. Its prosperity has been largely of its own making, and its growth has been rapid and solid. What may be taken as its motto, "Ever Forward," is one to which it seeks to live up to thoroughly. A hundred years ago it was a delightful and much-admired watering-place, long frequented by visitors as a summer resort. At that time it was the village of Weston. Since then it has steadily grown, not only in stature, but also in the enthusiastic esteem of holiday-makers. A century ago its permanent population probably did not number more than a hundred. By 1901 the population had grown to 19,000, and according to the preliminary census figures of 1931 the resident population is slightly over 28,500, but in summer the number exceeds 80,000. In a period of thirty years the rateable value has increased from £124,000 to £323,900.

A well-built, clean, and comely town, symmetrically arranged, Weston sweeps along the shore from the fir-clad rocky heights of Worlebury to Brean Down. For the most part the residences are of good architecture, substantially constructed of local stone. The water supply is controlled by the Urban District Council. As a result of an elaborate scheme undertaken by the local authority some years ago a plentiful supply of soft palatable water is obtained from Banwell. Among other civic services administered by the Council are the hospital, baths, market, abattoir, free library, museum, allotments, and fire station. The Council has jurisdiction over the foreshore, sands and wastes covering 2,000 acres and derives a substantial revenue from these. The electricity undertaking is owned by the



THE WINTER GARDENS



Weston-Super-Mare and District Electric Supply Company, Ltd., which is also the owner of the tramways undertaking, covering over three miles of track. The gas undertaking is in the ownership of the Weston-Super-Mare Gaslight Company, Ltd. Omnibuses are run by the Bristol Tramways and Carriage Company, Ltd. In the matter of improvement schemes, particularly in connection with the sea front, a progressive policy has been pursued

needs adequately catered for at Weston. Among the splendid courses are the Worlebury, laid out on the top of the hill of that name, and the Weston-Super-Mare course situated on the sea-side of the town at the southern end of Weston. There is also the noted championship course at Burnham-on-Sea. In addition golfers will find a pleasurable attraction in the putting courses in the Winter Gardens, and in the midget golf course, while there are

demonstrated by a visit to Brean Down, famous as a bird sanctuary, where some of the rarest species may be found. It is one of the few official sanctuaries for wild birds in this country. The botanist also will find much to engage his attention, for many rare wild plants are grown on the Down.

Weston is justly proud of its Winter Gardens and Pavilion, one of the most handsome architectural features of the front, which was erected at a capital cost of £44,493, and was opened in July, 1927. The erection of this magnificent building is one of the town's most notable achievements. There is a splendid ball room, the floor of which is of Australian oak. All tastes are catered for, and some of the best-known Cabarets are engaged.

What has been described as Weston's "permanent sea," the Glentworth Bay Marine Lake, is a source of infinite pleasure for children and grown-ups alike. By the construction of a concrete sea wall from Knightstone Promontory to Madeira Cove there has been transformed into a delightful bathing and boating lake a bay which was formerly filled and emptied by the daily tide. Among other features of the lake are a specially constructed harbor for children's paddle-boats and an unusual arrangement for bathing tents. The esplanade has been extended about 20 feet into the bay, the extension being supported by gracefully-designed columns resting on a concrete platform built to fit under the upper extension. The bathing tents are constructed on steel frames on the lower platform and extend from the main entrance at Knightstone to Madeira Cove. This Marine Lake, which is now entering upon its fourth season, was constructed at a capital cost of about £64,000.

It is not possible to touch on all the varied attractions which civic enterprise has provided at Weston. But attention should be called to the Madeira Cove, a charming spot situated practically at the foot of Worlebury Hill, and commanding a splendid view of the whole of the bay; and also the Knightstone Theatre, situated on the sea front, opposite Madeira Cove which provides seating accommodation for 1,200 persons and at which first-class plays are presented. There are a number of cinemas where the latest and best films are shown, and at Madeira Cove there is an admirable orchestra whose programmes are calculated to satisfy varied musical tastes. The popularity of this entertainment is indicated by the fact that the accommodation became inadequate and the urban district Council has widened the promenade in the vicinity of the bandstand to provide for several hundred additional seats.

Weston has two piers, namely the Grand,



WESTON-SUPER-MARE, FROM THE AIR

by the council, and extensive widenings of the promenade, involving considerable expenditure, have been completed.

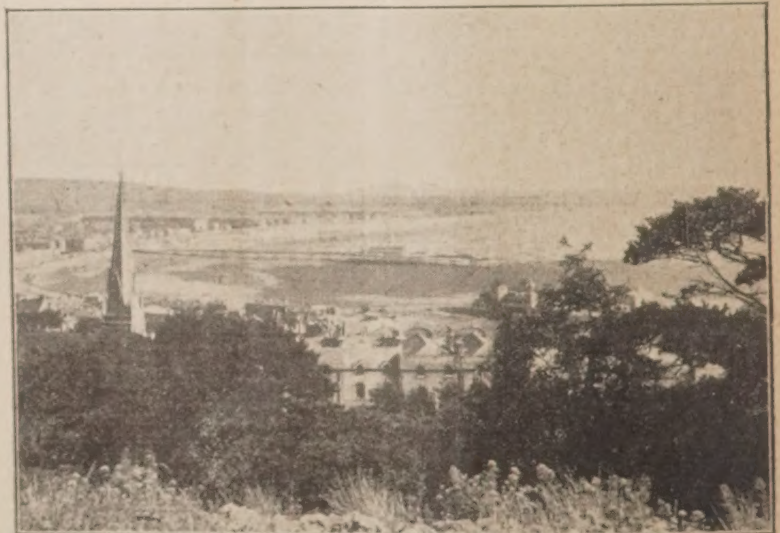
A further feature of the municipal activities is the preparation of a town planning scheme. The town possesses an unusually large number of schools, including the county school, which is situated at the south end of the town and is maintained by the Somerset County Council. This is a temporary building, but a site of approximately eighteen acres in the southern suburbs has been purchased for a new school, which will consist of separate boys' and girls' schools with accommodation for approximately 350 to 400 in each. As becomes an enterprising seaside resort, Weston possesses varied and ample shopping facilities—one of the best centres in the west country in this respect. The town is well served by rail and road transport from the metropolis, midlands, South Wales, and even the northern areas, and in addition to the town's service of buses there are regular daily motor services to all the surrounding districts.

Turning to some of the other amenities of the town, it may be noted that Weston is rich in spacious parks and open spaces. Flanking the broad level promenade are wide and beautiful lawns. Trees have been freely planted in the streets, and at the height of the season the flowers and shrubs make a gorgeous display. Thoroughfares like the Boulevard would do credit to any town. Grove Park, in the heart of the town, with its fine trees and greensward, is a popular rendezvous, among whose features is a splendid concert pavilion where a first-class party performs from Whitsuntide to September. At Clarence Park, a gift to the town, are bowling greens where the annual tournament, a function which attracts visitors from all parts of the Kingdom, is held. Ashcombe Park, which comprises about thirty-six acres of undulating grassland and affords excellent facilities for sport, is regarded as one of the finest pleasure parks in the country.

Overlooking the Old Pier are the Prince Consort Gardens. Golfers will find their

also very good facilities for bowling, tennis and other games.

Delegates will not miss a visit to the Woods where, from a height of about 350 feet above sea level, magnificent views are obtained of the Mendip Hills and also of Sand Bay, a secluded spot adjoining the northern boundary of the town. These woods, about a mile and a half long, and a mile wide, abound in charming foliage. Worlebury woods provide a delightful saunter, and the camp enclosing pit dwellings, is an object of great interest to the antiquarian, for here one traverses ground that was trodden by the Ancient Britons. That Weston does not lack variety in its attractions is again



WESTON'S PICTURESQUE BAY





Mr. GEOFFREY KNOWLES,  
Clerk, Weston-Super-Mare U.D.C.



LORD ERSKINE, M.P.



LADY MARJORY ERSKINE.



CAPT. T. H. WATSON,  
Chairman, Somerset C.C.

## NALGO PROVIDENT SOCIETY

The Annual General Meeting of the society will be held in the Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare, on May 16. Supplies of agendas have been forwarded to local correspondents for distribution to members. Items for discussion include the financial statement and balance sheet, and the annual report.

The following alterations to rules will be considered:—

Rule 11. Withdrawals and Return at Death.—

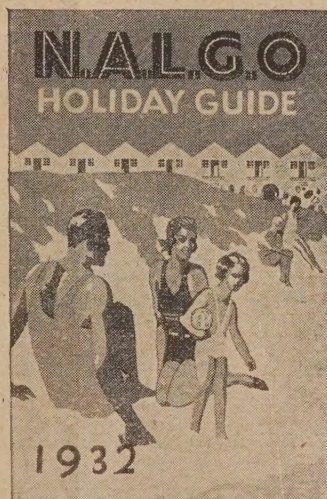
Rule 22. Trustees.—"Insert the following words after the word 'society' in the first line of section 1: 'who shall be the Honorary Trustees of the National Association of Local Government Officers for the time being.'" Submitted by the Committee of Management.

Rule 23. Treasurer.—"Delete the first two lines ending with the word 'purpose' and substitute the following therefor: 'The Treasurer shall be the Treasurer of the National Association of Local Government Officers for the time being.'" Submitted by the Committee of Management.

Rule 24. Secretary.—"Delete the whole Rule and substitute the following therefor: 'Rule 24.—Secretary and Accountant. (i) The Secretary shall be the General Secretary of the National Association of Local Government Officers for the time being. He (or his deputy) shall give his attendance at meetings of the Society, and of the Committee of Management; he shall summon all meetings and record correctly the names of the officers and members present at meetings of the Committee, and the minutes of the proceedings at all meetings, which he shall transcribe into a book to be authenticated by the signature of the Chairman as the proceedings of the meeting; he shall receive proposals for admission to the Society, and demands for benefits and allowances of every description granted by the Rules. The Secretary may engage clerical assistants approved by the National Executive Council of the N.A.L.G.O. for the purpose of carrying on the business of the Society, the remuneration of such assistants to be paid out of the Management Fund. (ii) The Accountant shall be the Accountant to the National Association of Local Government Officers for the time being. All cheques upon the Society's Bankers shall be signed by the Accountant. He shall also pay over all moneys, and give up all books, documents, and property belonging to the Society, when ordered to do so by a resolution thereof duly vouched, or by the Trustees or the Committee. He shall keep the accounts, documents, and papers of the Society in such manner and for such purposes as the Committee may appoint, and shall prepare all returns and other documents required by the Act.'" Submitted by the Committee of Management.

The following Notice of Motion, submitted by the members of the Leeds Branch, will be submitted: "That the Management Committee be requested to take into consideration the desirability, or otherwise, of formulating a scheme to provide Medical Benefits for members of the Society (i.e. by the payment of doctors' bills); and that if thought desirable and approved by the members the Objects and Rules of the Society be amended accordingly."

The meeting will elect the Committee of Management for the year 1932-33, which, if the alteration of Rule 19 is approved, will consist of the Trustees, the Treasurer, and ten other ordinary or honorary members of the Society, of whom seven shall be nominated by the National Executive Council of the National Association of Local Government Officers.



HAVE YOU ORDERED YOURS ?

"Delete from line 3 of section 2, the word 'two' and substitute the word 'one.'" Submitted by the members of the Isle of Ely Branch.

Rule 13. Sick Pay.—"After the word 'work' in the second line of section 3 insert the words 'for a period exceeding three days.'" Submitted by the members of the Glasgow Branch.

Rule 18. Convalescent Homes Benefit.—"That section 2 of this Rule be amended so as to provide that N.P.S. members recommended for a longer period than two weeks' residence at Nalگو House be allowed the extra period at a reduced rate of £2 2s. per week." Submitted by the members of the Glasgow Branch.

Rule 19. Government.—"Delete section 1 and substitute the following therefor: '1. The Society shall have the following officers:—Three Trustees, Treasurer, Secretary, Accountant and a Committee of Management which shall consist of the Trustees, Treasurer, and 10 other members of the Society, ordinary or honorary.'" Submitted by the Committee of Management.

which is centrally situated on the Promenade, and Birnbeck, which is the landing place for steamer passengers. It may be recalled that the Grand Pier Pavilion, which was the largest hall in the town, was destroyed by fire in January, 1930. Some time ago the Pier Company promoted in Parliament a Bill to confer power for the re-building of the Pavilion. The Urban District Council opposed the Bill on various grounds, but a Committee of the House of Lords found the preamble proved. The measure involves the repeal of the protection contained in seven local Acts.

As reported in a recent issue of the *Municipal Journal*, by Clause 14 of the Bill wide powers are sought for the future erection of buildings, including accommodation for public entertainments, theatres, or other amusements. It was contended that if the pier company obtained powers to erect such buildings without reference to or control by the local authority the whole character of the town might be irretrievably spoiled, and this would have the inevitable result of lowering the rateable value of the adjacent property. It was also argued that the amenities of the town as a holiday resort would be seriously impaired by the erection of very large buildings on the pier, as these would obliterate the view of the whole Bay and of the Bleadon Hills beyond. A further contention was that the sale of the pier in 1916 to the Pier Company was only permitted on the understanding that the local authority should have controlling rights. The protective provisions in six Acts of Parliament were therefore continued, or enlarged, and included in the Act which transferred the pier to the Pier Company. The present Bill, it was alleged, would permit the company to violate these protective provisions.

The Company, in July last year, submitted to the Council plans for a new pavilion two and a half times the size of the former building, but the Council suggested that a building of approximately the size of the old structure should be erected. To this suggestion the Pier Company replied that it could not profitably carry on a fun fair, proposed in lieu of the performances provided in the original building, in a pavilion of the size of the old one. Amendments of the plans were subsequently proposed, involving a reduction in the length of the building and widening of the gangways, but the Council insisted that it could not approve either the elevation or the size of the proposed building, in view of the injurious effect it would have on amenities.

In the course of evidence before the Lords' committee, Mr. R. W. Davidge, F.R.I.B.A., past-president of the Town Planning Institute, and that the seafront and natural surroundings of Weston-Super-Mare were unique, and he did not know of another place in this country, unless possibly Torquay, that had such a charming natural bay as Weston. The Lords' committee suggested that the promoters of the Bill and the U.D.C. should confer with a view to an agreed amendment of Clause 14.

The U.D.C. has presented a petition to the Privy Council for a Chamber of Incorporation.



# N.A.L.G.O. STUDENT'S NOTES

## MINISTER'S SUPPORT FOR SUMMER SCHOOL

IT is good news that Sir E. Hilton Young, Minister of Health, has agreed to open the N.A.L.G.O. Summer School at Selwyn College, Cambridge, on July 2. The Ministry of Health is so inalienably connected with the development of local government that it would be unfortunate if the Summer School were to pass without its recognition. Sir Edward's presence will be very welcome. For our part we must see to it that there is a large and impressive gathering at the school to meet him and to hear his opening address.

Many local authorities have agreed to allow members of their staffs "time off" to attend the school; some branches of the Association have instituted scholarships to assist towards the payment of the cost. All these aids are very helpful and are to be encouraged, but the school is just as much for the private member as for the local delegate.

The prospectus for the school is now complete and copies can be obtained from the Headquarters of the Association or from branch secretaries and education correspondents.

The connecting theme for the lectures is "Local Government in the Crisis," and there will be a short historical analysis of the events leading up to the present organisation of local government and the effect which recent events have had on it. The potentialities of the situation will be dealt with in order to make constructive proposals. The position in France, Germany, and the U.S.A. will be used for purposes of comparison.

Professor E. Barker, Litt.D., of Cambridge University, has agreed to address the Summer School.

For the information of members the following synopsis of the first four lectures is given.

### Lecture I. Introductory

Local government in England is the outcome partly of spontaneous local growth of a highly diversified character and partly of the occasional intervention, often drastic in character, by the central government. Haphazard, unco-ordinated and unscientific development has resulted. The immense growth in importance and scope of municipal functions reveals the need for systematic constructive thought, informed by conscious social purpose, to be directed towards the improvement of our local governing institutions.

A survey of the possible agencies, including: The Associations of Local Authorities, The Ministry of Health and other Departments, Royal Commissions and Committees, Universities, Professional Associations, etc. The opportunities awaiting municipal officers to promote the science of their profession. The place and function of summer schools. Local research groups. The position in America. The relations between the science of government and the art of public administration.

### Lecture II. Problems of the Day

Certain outstanding questions have arisen in more or less similar form in many western countries. These include: The problem of areas. The government of metropolitan cities.

The relations between central and local authorities. The municipal service. The distinction between "professional" and "administrative" work. The relation between the public and the local authority. These questions will be discussed with reference to their universal framework, the underlying causes, their special application to Great Britain, and the future outlook.

### Lecture III. Local Government and the Crisis

What is a Crisis? The English crisis, its causes and cure. To what extent was the emergency of 1931 due to the actions of (a) the central government, (b) the local authorities, and (c) outside forces? A survey of the action taken in the field of local government to meet the emergency. To what extent was it wise or unwise? The present situation in the U.S.A. compared with our own.



SIR E. HILTON YOUNG, M.P.  
Minister of Health

### Lecture IV. Economy and Planning in Local Government

Financial and social conceptions of Economy. Are local authorities engaged in "spending" or "producing" wealth? The analogy between an individual and a local authority.

Local government considered as economic enterprise. Its relation to private enterprise and the national economic system. The demands of the ratepayer. The needs of the citizen. Municipal activity as a stabilising influence in an unstable world.

Economy and efficiency. The meaning of efficiency. Opportunities for increased efficiency. Possible fields of improvement. The uses of adversity. The dangers of adversity.

The need for planning in local government. Convulsive changes of policy. Planning as applied to finance and particular services. A planning authority.

Please enrol as early as possible before June 20. Cost, 10s. 6d. (registration fee for members of N.A.L.G.O.); 10s. 6d. per day (for 7 days) for College Dues.

### NALGO EXAMINATIONS

The number of entrants for the N.A.L.G.O. Examinations in May shows a considerable increase on previous figures.

The N.A.L.G.O. Examinations for clerical and administrative officers are held twice each year—in January and May. It is the usual experience that more candidates enter for the May examination than for the test in January, in order, presumably, to give themselves the winter and spring months for study.

The number of entries for the N.A.L.G.O. Examinations in 1932 is as follows:—

January	..	..	115
May	..	..	218
Total for 1932			333

### REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

An interesting meeting of representatives from branches within the area of the University of Liverpool was held on April 6, at the invitation of the Liverpool Branch. The purpose of the meeting was to survey the education facilities which are available in Liverpool and district for local government officials, and, if possible, to find means of developing these.

The meeting was addressed by Mr. H. Corser, divisional organising secretary, Mr. T. S. Simey, lecturer in Public Administration at the Liverpool University; and Mr. T. Harvatt, Education Secretary of the N.A.L.G.O., on the various qualifications which are open to local government officials and on the Diploma of Public Administration of the Liverpool University. It was shown how there is a complete network of facilities available for local government officials to prepare first for their professional, technical, or N.A.L.G.O. Examinations, and later for the University qualification.

In order to continue the work of the meeting a committee was appointed under the title "the N.A.L.G.O. Education Committee of the Liverpool University Area," consisting of one representative from each branch concerned, together with Messrs. C. A. W. Roberts, E. L. Riley, T. S. Simey and W. Allanach.

This development of the Association's educational work might be tried with advantage in many areas. Much more can often be accomplished by several branches working together than by individual branches; a greater range of material becomes available and a greater number of officers upon which to draw. Mobilisation of this kind makes it possible to develop an educational programme.

A short time ago the Education Committee of the Association considered a report on the formation of research groups in those areas where there are universities and university colleges. A logical development of this scheme is, therefore, the formation of regional committees.



*Meet*

**A FAMOUS  
Evening  
News  
CHARACTER**



THE  
9-MONTHS-  
TO-PAY  
MAN.

**HAS GOOD NEWS  
FOR YOU . . . .**

# HAVE YOU HEARD—



HERBERT SUTCLIFFE.

## WHAT SUTCLIFFE SAYS ———?

"Dear John Temple," he writes, "—Percy Holmes seemed so 'well set' in the smart suit you made him that I thought it must be part of the brighter cricket campaign—anyway, I simply had to back up, and I must say you've done specially well for me."

"It's what we in Yorkshire call 'a bit of good stuff,' and if you know how suspicious we are of exaggeration, that's praise indeed."

"I don't wonder you keep busy."

(Signed) Herbert Sutcliffe.

## HOW JOE HULME LIKED HIS SUIT ?

This is what he says : "I like that suit you made for me, and I hope my footwork is as good as your handiwork. Evidently you believe in something more than merely covering your man."

"Sportsmen are no sideline with you, are they ? You're quite a centre for us, especially these days when expenses are a bit of a penalty area."

"Well, I shall keep my outside right, and you'll go forward too."

(Signed) Joe Hulme.  
(Arsenal F.C.)

## WHAT HARRY VARDON THINKS?

Dear Temple,

They tell me I know something about Golf—well that's two things I know at any rate, because I know something about Tailors also. I am very pleased indeed with the suit you made me. Your System of deferred payments strikes me as being a 'fair-way' that will bring joy to any golfer.

(Signed) Harry Vardon.

## AND SANDY HERD'S OPINION ?

Dear John Temple,

I heard that my boy Vardon had broken out in a new place and bought himself a snappy Plus-four Suit from you.

So there was nothing for it but for me to smarten myself up too. I'm glad I did, for the lounge suit you have made for me is the nicest and most comfortable I have ever had fitted.

Yours gratefully,

(Signed) Alex. Herd.

P.S.—It was quite an oversight that I paid for it all at once—I see that you offer your customers monthly terms.

In addition to the above, we have received, amongst many others, tributes from Percy Holmes, Patsy Hendren and Arthur Wood, the well-known cricketers.

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# ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1932

## CONSIDERED AMENDMENTS TO NOTICES OF MOTION CONTAINED IN AGENDA WHICH FORMED SUPPLEMENT TO APRIL ISSUE

### AGENDA ITEM No. 4

#### Paragraph (b) (1)

*Amendment submitted by the New Mills and District Branch.*

That Rules 5(a) (1) of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund be amended as follows:—  
"A personal donation of not less than three guineas in any one year shall entitle the donor to life membership."

#### Paragraph (b) (2)

*Amendment submitted by the Stockport Branch.*

(a) Delete the words "at least one of whom must be a member of the Council" in lieu thereof substitute the following: "exclusive of the Chairman and Secretary of the District Committee, who shall be ex-officio members of the Committee."

### AGENDA ITEM No. 10

#### Paragraph 89—Annual Report

*Amendment submitted by the South Wales and Monmouthshire District Committee.*

That this Conference, whilst recording its appreciation of the sustained effort of the National Executive Council in pressing the claim for a compulsory Superannuation Act, views with increasing anxiety the continued delay in establishing such an enactment and appeals to H.M. Government to adopt as a Government measure, a Bill to ensure Superannuation for all Local Government Officers and to devote the necessary time during the present session to its passage into Law, particularly having regard to the anomalies in this respect created under the operation of the Local Government Act, 1929. That the gist of this Resolution be conveyed accordingly to H.M. Government.

### Paragraph 135—Annual Report

*Amendment No. 1 submitted by the Glamorgan Branch.*

That the Conference do not approve of the recommendations of the N.E.C. regarding the formation of a Building Society.

*Amendment No. 2 submitted by the Glamorgan Branch.*

The Glamorgan County Officers' Association to move the deletion of the last sentence in paragraph 72 of page 117 of the Report relating to the formation of the Nalgo Building Society.

*Amendment No. 3 submitted by the Kent County Officers' Branch.*

That consideration of the proposals for the formation of a Building Society be deferred for twelve months and in the meantime the National Executive Council be instructed to explore every avenue of possibility of existing funds of the Association being utilized or other arrangements being made to enable members to purchase houses for their own occupation.

### AGENDA ITEM No. 11

#### Paragraph (b)

*Amendment submitted by the Yorkshire District Committee.*

That (a) and (b) of the motion be amended by adding "and/or Guest House" after the word "camp."

### AGENDA ITEM No. 14

*Amendment No. 1 submitted by the Glasgow and District Branch.*

That the National Executive Council take into consideration the relative conditions under which male and female staffs are recruited and employed by Local Authorities with a view to the enunciation of a policy for the Service, designed to secure fair treatment for all.

*Amendment No. 2 submitted by the North Western and North Wales District Committee.*

That the National Executive Council be instructed to establish, develop and maintain the principle that each Local Authority should undertake to pay adult men and women in its employment equal pay for equal work.

*Amendment No. 3 submitted by the Manchester Branch.*

That the National Executive Council be instructed to establish, develop and maintain the principle that each Local Authority should undertake to pay adult men and women in its employment equal pay for equal work.

### AGENDA ITEM No. 16

*Amendment submitted by the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Branch.*

That in view of the necessity for some co-ordination of the notices of motion submitted by various branches—many of which have a similar purpose in view—it is desirable that an Agenda Committee be appointed to deal with all such matters. That the National Executive Council be instructed to consider and report hereon to the next Conference with recommendations as to the formation of such Agenda Committee.

#### Paragraph (a)

*Amendment submitted by the Yorkshire District Committee.*

(1) Substitute "salary including bonus and fees" for "salary and bonus."

(2) Delete "exceeding £52 but not exceeding £120 per annum, 10d. per month" and insert "Exceeding £52 but not exceeding £75 per annum, 7d. per month. Exceeding £75 but not exceeding £120 per annum, 10d. per month."

#### Paragraph (a) (a)

*Amendment No. 1 submitted by the Middlesex County Officers' Branch.*

That the scale of subscriptions of membership of the Association be amended as follows:—

Salary and Bonus	Rate of Subscription Per month
Not exceeding £25 per annum	4d.
Exceeding £52, but not exceeding £120 per annum	9d.
Exceeding £120 but not exceeding £260 per annum	1/-
Exceeding £260, but not exceeding £350 per annum	1/3
Exceeding £350, but not exceeding £450 per annum	1/6
Exceeding £450 per annum	1/9

*Amendment No. 2 submitted by the Hemsworth Branch.*

That Rule 9 of the rules and constitution of the Association be amended as follows:—  
Rule 9.—Delete the whole rule and substitute the following therefor:—

(a) Members shall pay a monthly subscription, except as provided in Rule 10, based on their total salary and bonus as follows:—

Salary and Bonus	Rate of Subscription Per Month
Not exceeding £52 per annum	5d.
Exceeding £52, but not exceeding £120 per annum	8d.
Exceeding £120, but not exceeding £260 per annum	1/-
Exceeding £260, but not exceeding £350 per annum	1/4
Exceeding £350, but not exceeding £450 per annum	1/8
Exceeding £450 per annum	2/-

The basis of a member's subscription for the purposes of this rule shall be his total salary and bonus on the first day of each financial year of the Branch; except in the case of a member joining after that date, when the basis for the then current year shall be his total salary and bonus on the first day of his membership.  
Except in the case of a member whose salary and bonus does not exceed £52 per annum, "salary" for the purposes of this rule shall be deemed to include emoluments.

(b) Retired members shall pay a subscription of 5s. per annum.

(c) Honorary members shall not be required to pay any entrance fee or subscriptions unless the Council otherwise direct.

(d) The Branch shall retain twenty per cent. of the total amount collected in subscriptions during each year.

### AGENDA ITEM No. 18

#### Paragraph (a) (d)

*Amendment No. 1 submitted by the Skipton Branch.*

The Branch shall retain 50 per cent. of the total amount collected in subscriptions during each year, if the membership be 50 or under; for Branches with over 50 members, 40 per cent.

*Amendment No. 2 submitted by the Southend-on-Sea Branch.*

That the word "thirty-five" in the first line of section (d) be deleted and the word "forty" substituted therefor.

#### Paragraph (a) (e)

*Amendment submitted by the Cambridgeshire Branch.*

That the above scale of subscriptions be not reconsidered prior to the year 1935.

### Paragraph (c)

*Amendment No. 1, submitted by the Yorkshire District Committee.*

Amend penultimate line by substituting "£52 per annum" for "£75 per annum."

*Amendment No. 2, submitted by the Dumbar-tonshire Branch.*

That the scale of subscriptions for membership of the Association be amended as follows:—

Salary and Bonus	Rate of Subscription Per month
Not exceeding £52 per annum	5d.
Exceeding £52, but not exceeding £75 per annum	7d.
Exceeding £75, but not exceeding £150 per annum	10d.
Exceeding £150, but not exceeding £260 per annum	1/3
Remainder to stand.	

### Paragraph (d)

*Amendment submitted by the Bath Branch.*

Add after the words "per annum" in the last line "and 1s. in the case of officers whose salaries exceed £120 but do not exceed £190."

### Paragraph (g)

*Amendment submitted by the Skipton Branch.*

That the motion of the Southend-on-Sea Branch be altered to read:—

That the proportion of the total amount collected in subscriptions retained by Branches shall be increased from 35 to 40 per cent. for branches with a membership of over 50, and for small Branches with 50 members or under, the rebate shall be 50 per cent. Rule 9 to be amended accordingly.

### AGENDA ITEM No. 19

*The Birkenhead Branch has withdrawn its Notice of Motion under this item.*

### AGENDA ITEM No. 21

*Amendment submitted by the Bath Branch.*

Add after the words "further election" "and that the N.E.C. (in order to ensure continuity of policy) be instructed to consider and, if necessary, prepare a scheme for the election of one-third of the N.E.C. annually."

### AGENDA ITEM No. 22

#### Paragraph (b)

*Amendment submitted by the East Midlands District Committee.*

That the number of elective members of the National Executive Council be increased to such a number as will provide that each District in England and Wales shall have not less than 2 representatives thereon and that the Rules and Constitution be amended accordingly."

### AGENDA ITEM No. 24

*Amendment submitted by the Glamorgan Branch.*

That investments in Building Societies be limited to investments in the National Building Society if the principle of the formation of a Building Society is approved by Conference.

### AGENDA ITEM No. 26

*Amendment submitted by the Barking Branch.*

That the words "Annual Conference" be substituted for the word "Council" appearing in the last line of paragraph (a)

### AGENDA ITEM No. 28

*The following invitation has been received from the Blackpool Corporation:*

Mayor's Parlour,  
Town Hall,  
Blackpool.  
April 5th, 1932.

Dear Mr. Hill.—

I shall be very glad if you will, on behalf of the Corporation of this Borough, extend a very cordial invitation to the National Association of Local Government Officers to hold the 1933 Annual Meeting at Blackpool. Your Council may rest assured that in the event of this invitation being accepted, no effort will be spared in making the Conference an outstanding and conspicuous success. We are so well known to you and to many members of the Association that I need not stress the fact that there is ample accommodation here at your disposal, both as regards conference halls and hotels and apartments, and a great opportunity will arise for the delegates and the ladies accompanying them deriving benefit from our invigorating air and also thoroughly enjoying the amenities of our borough. The local branch of your Association will, I know, be only too glad to render you loyal and willing help in the running of the Conference, and the Corporation will be pleased to extend hospitality and assist in any way they can to assure the happiness and enjoyment of all attending here in connection with the Conference.

I trust we shall hear that the Association have decided upon Blackpool so that our share in the making of the necessary preliminary arrangements may be put in hand in good time.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,  
LEONARD NEWSOME,  
Mayor.



# LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

By a Contributor

THIS information is taken from the reports to be submitted to the International Congress of Local Authorities which is to open on May 23. These reports cover thirty countries. Together with a General Report on co-ordination and criticism, they are now available in English. They are issued in one volume to members of the Congress.

In most Continental countries local government officials are appointed by the local council. On the other hand, in Estonia, the Greek towns, Latvia, Poland and (usually) in Switzerland, the appointments are made by the executive; in France, Lithuania, Roumania, and, as regards the general secretary, also in Greece, the authority appointing is the mayor or prefect. The Italian communal officials, with the exception of the chief secretary, are appointed by the "podesta" who is himself appointed by the central government and is solely responsible for the whole administration of his town. The communal chief secretary is appointed by the prefect (of the province), and the provincial officials by the Rettorato, or provincial government committee. In Finland the higher officials are appointed by the municipal council or the executive, the others by the committee which they serve; while in Norway the county officials are the committee which they serve; while appointed and paid by the central government. In Belgian towns the appointment of secretaries and accountants requires the approval of the county executive.

## MAYOR AND OFFICIALS

In France the mayor appoints all the communal officials for whom the laws, decrees and regulations in force do not fix any special right of appointment. Other officials such as school teachers, agents responsible for the service of highways (road labourers, sweepers, paviours) and those responsible for other services worked by the administration (funerals, buses, tramways, octroi, etc.) are appointed by the prefect, the official head of the "Department" or county, who is responsible only to the central Government.

The officials of the prefectures are appointed by the prefect, and this is the case also as regards the officers of most of the other departmental services. There are, however, certain departmental services administered or directed by officials who are also responsible for State services. These are not appointed by the prefect, but by the paymaster general (when connected with finance and accounts) or by the chief engineer

of bridges and roads (when connected with the highways).

Among the officials subordinate to the German Burgomaster, are those who preside over the various branches of administration, such as "Kammerer" (chief finance official), "Stadt syndikus" (who deals with legal and general administrative questions and corresponds closely to the English town clerk), "Stadt baurat" (city architect), "Stadt schulrat" (education chief) and "Stadt medizinalrat" (head of the health department). These latter are members of the executive body and are elected by the Council and their officials are appointed by the executive body, or sometimes by the appropriate committee.

## GERMAN SALARIES

In regard to salaries, in Germany both Reich and state legislation has laid it down that the salaries of local officials must not be higher than those paid to similarly qualified Reich or state officials. In Belgium it has been considered necessary, in order to protect communal officials, to insert provisions in an Act to prevent the assignment of an insufficient salary being used by some communal authorities as a disguised method of dismissal. The minimum salaries laid down by the Belgian law for communal officials are lower than those paid by the State to the same grade, but the communal councils have the right to pay higher salaries than the legal minimum. In Poland the salaries of municipal officials are the same as, and in Czechoslovakia may not exceed, those of civil servants.

In Holland the average salary of a secretary of a council in a town of from 450,000 to 750,000 inhabitants is 10,000 florins, in communes of about 100,000 inhabitants 9,000 florins, in those of about 50,000 persons 7,000 florins, and in those of about 5,000 population 3,600 florins.

In Spain the Municipal Statute of 1924 fixed a minimum salary for a number of communal officials adapted to the size of the municipal budget or the population.

There are pension systems for officials in every continental country except Lithuania, apart from the capital. Only very exceptionally are such systems established in French communes. It is noticeable that in Hungary officials are pensioned at the early age of 40.

As a general rule the bodies which appoint the officials have the power to dismiss them. In Belgium, however, the approval of the *deputation permanente* (of the province) is required before any local official can be dismissed from his office. The communal secretary holds

# HONORARY OFFICERS

List of Nominations for 1932-33.

The election takes place at the Annual Conference, Weston-super-Mare.

## PRESIDENT

F. MARSDEN.—Nominated by National Executive Council, North Western and North Wales District Committee, Yorkshire District Committee, and East Midlands District Committee.

## TWO VICE-PRESIDENTS

W. W. ARMITAGE.—Nominated by Yorkshire District Committee.

C. G. BROWN.—Nominated by National Executive Council.

F. R. FINCH.—Nominated by Metropolitan District Committee.

M. O. McAULIFFE.—Nominated by South Western District Committee.

SIR TOM PERCIVAL.—Nominated by National Executive Council, North Eastern District Committee, East Midlands District Committee, and South Eastern District Committee.

J. W. WILKINSON.—Nominated by North Western and North Wales District Committee.

## THREE TRUSTEES

H. BEGG, S. LORD, and W. H. WHINNERAH.—Nominated by National Executive Council, Metropolitan District Committee, North Western and North Wales District Committee, North Eastern District Committee, Yorkshire District Committee, East Midlands District Committee, West Midlands District Committee, South Eastern District Committee, Southern District Committee, South Western District Committee, and Scottish District Committee.

## HONORARY TREASURER

W. E. LLOYD.—Nominated by National Executive Council, Metropolitan District Committee, North Western and North Wales District Committee, North Eastern District Committee, Yorkshire District Committee, East Midlands District Committee, West Midlands District Committee, South Eastern District Committee, Southern District Committee, South Western District Committee, and Scottish District Committee.

HONORARY SOLICITOR FOR ENGLAND  
G. C. V. CANT.—Nominated by West Midlands District Committee.

P. H. HARROLD.—Nominated by National Executive Council.

C. J. NEWMAN.—Nominated by South Western District Committee.

E. W. TAME.—Nominated by North Western and North Wales District Committee.

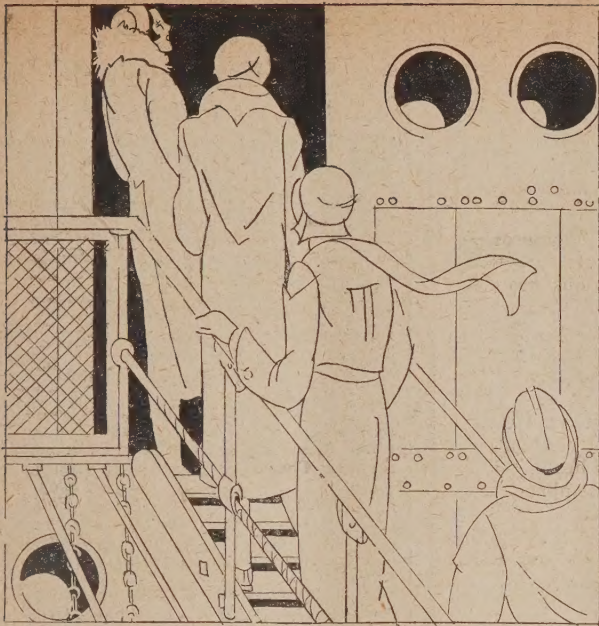
HONORARY SOLICITOR FOR WALES  
C. G. BROWN.—Nominated by National Executive Council, North Eastern District Committee, Yorkshire District Committee, East Midlands District Committee, and South Western District Committee.

## HONORARY SOLICITOR FOR SCOTLAND

G. S. FRASER.—Nominated by National Executive Council, North Eastern District Committee, Yorkshire District Committee, East Midlands District Committee, South Western District Committee, and Scottish District Committee.

a life appointment in Estonia, and can be dismissed only with the consent of the central State organ of control, while in Hungary the district chief controls the officials of the communes in his district. In Spain the suspension or dismissal of communal officials must be notified to the governor, who can also suspend or dismiss them on his own initiative.





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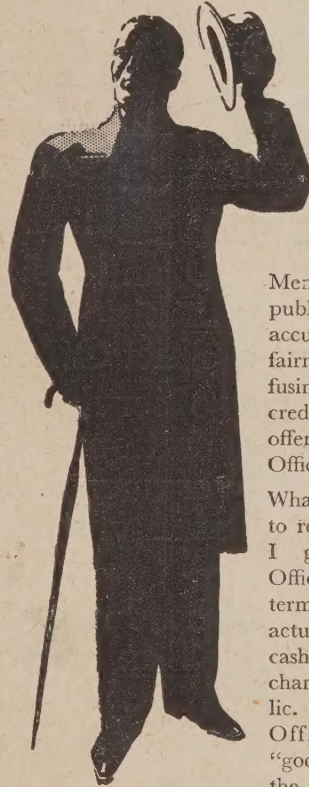
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## DEDUCTIONS FOR INCOME TAX

**N**EW arrangements came into operation on April 1, 1932, in the Civil Service, in regard to deductions from salaries, wages and pensions in respect of certain "approved objects."

At the meeting of the Civil Service National Whitley Council, held on July 3, 1931, an interim report was presented as to the progress of the scheme. There are still, however, certain matters not specifically referred to in the Treasury Circular dated January 28, 1932: (1) the position as regards the Post Office; (2) the proposed Civil Service Insurance Council; (3) Departmental Benevolent Societies; (4) Season tickets.

On these several subjects, representations have been made to the council from the staff or the official sides of its membership, but for the time being decisions are reserved.

In this connection, in the course of his speech introducing the Budget on April 19, Mr. Neville Chamberlain made an appeal to local authorities. The Chancellor said that the path to financial stability could be made less arduous by mutual aid. He referred to one feature of the national effort with particular appreciation. A number of local authorities and certain industrial concerns were public-spirited enough to undertake themselves to pay income-tax for their employees and allow their employees to pay them back by instalments. Altogether, there were about 100 arrangements of that kind. They generally took the form that the employer found the whole or part of the money and then recovered from the employee by deductions from the monthly payments of his remuneration. In that way not only was the tax secured to the Exchequer, but the burden of the incidence on the employee was materially eased. It could not be questioned that the demand for the major part of the income-tax in one lump sum weighed heavily on small households where there are no considerable reserves of cash. A system which enabled payment to be spread over a few months was bound to afford relief to the taxpayer.

Unfortunately it was impossible for administrative reasons to collect income-tax by instalments, and, therefore, the only way to secure this spread-over was through the medium of the employers to arrange for deductions from the monthly payments. It would be in the public interest if a scheme of that kind could form a permanent feature of our tax system. He wished to make an appeal to local authorities and to large industrial concerns to come into an arrangement of this sort. Of course, it would be purely voluntary. It would only be made with the assent of the employer, and would only extend to such of the employees as desired to take advantage of it. He did not ask the employer to find the money in advance, but only to pay over to the Revenue what he had already actually deducted from the employee.



# BRANCH AND DISTRICT NEWS

## AIREDALE AND WHARFEDALE

Steps have been taken to revive the interest of the members in the Airedale and Wharfedale Branch. Several meetings have been held at various centres, and it is gratifying to note that the members are showing greater keenness in the work of the Association than for some years past. The membership has also increased.

## AUDLEY

Regarding the abolition of the Council under Section 46 of the Local Government Act, 1929, appreciation of N.A.L.G.O.'s help in the past and in connection with the present position was expressed at a recent Council meeting.

## BETHNAL GREEN

Bethnal Green Branch, at the invitation of the Council, is organising a swimming gala at the Bethnal Green Public Baths, Old Ford Road, on May 24. The gala is to be international in character and the famous water-polo team from Antwerp, champions of Belgium last year and champions at the inter-club contests at Budapest, are being invited to play Plaistow United, the champions of all-England. Mr. E. H. Temme, the Channel swimmer; Mr. R. J. T. Sutton, national champion and England's hope in the forthcoming Olympic games at Los Angeles; A. North and W. A. Martin, both internationals; Gerald Blitz, sen., holder of five individual championships; Gerald Blitz, jun., the 100 metres champion of Belgium; and other record holders are to compete.

The branch hope that the members of N.A.L.G.O. in the Metropolitan District will take this opportunity of visiting Bethnal Green.

## CARDIFF

Following the agreement made as to temporary deduction from salaries the question has been raised at Cardiff whether the deductions should apply to salaries only or salaries and emoluments. As a result of an interview the branch secretary and the D.O.S. had with the chairman of the Salaries Sub-committee and the City Treasurer and Controller, it was recognised that the agreement referred to salaries and not to emoluments.

## CAMBRIDGE

The report of the Executive Committee of the Cambridge Borough Branch presented at the recent annual meeting shows the membership at the close of the year of 85 and one "retired" member. This is an increase of four over the previous year. A hundred per cent. membership is aimed at, and the committee urge members to lose no opportunity of pointing out to their colleagues who are not members, and to new officials joining the service, the benefits and advantages of N.A.L.G.O.

During the year the branch contributed to the B. and O. Fund the sum of £18 1s. 8d., an average of 4s. 4d. per head of membership. The "Sir Homewood Crawford Shield" for the highest average amount per member was won by the Haslingden Branch; the "Sir Charles Wakefield Shield" for the highest aggregate amount per branch was won by the Manchester Branch. The total of the Eastern District was £583 1s. 11d.

Full advantage had been taken of the facilities offered by the Coal Club, the Thrift Section, and the Provident Society.

The committee record, for the first time in the history of the branch, a joint meeting of members of the Cambridge Borough and County Branches, at which was discussed the question of voluntary temporary deduction in salaries, in view of the present national crisis. A scheme was formulated and was approved by both the Borough and County Councils, and is now in operation.

## DARLINGTON

The Darlington T.C. has granted payment to members of the staff of the Public Assistance Department engaged on the administration of transitional benefits.

## DORSET

As part of a scheme designed to alleviate the monotony of life for the unemployed, in the county town of Dorchester during the past winter a series of entertainments have been provided for the unemployed of the town and their families. Various local organisations, including N.A.L.G.O., have contributed to the series. The Dorset County Officials Branch entertained nearly 300 of the unemployed and their wives and children in the Corn Exchange on April 13. An excellent variety entertainment was presented, and during the interval light refreshments were served by the ladies of the staff. The seventh annual dinner of the Dorset County Officials Branch was held at the Hotel Burdon, Weymouth, on March 12, when Mr. Arthur Lewis (Public Assistance Officer) presided. Guests included Mr. W. W. Sampson, C.C., Major J. H. Devenish, C.C., Mr. A. H. Edwards, and Mr. Percy Smallman, Town Clerk, Weymouth.

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

*Organising and Branch Secretaries are requested to send "copy" to reach the Editor by May 19, for the June issue.*

*News of events which take place later—up to May 20—can be inserted if correspondents will send an intimation to the Editor beforehand.*

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE,  
3 and 4 Clement's Inn, W.C.2

A presentation of a silver cigarette case and a smoker's companion was made to Mr. C. H. Hyde, in appreciation of his services as chairman of the Branch Executive Committee for five years (1926-1931).

## EAST MIDLAND

The East Midland District Committee met at the County Hall, Nottingham, on April 9, to consider the Annual Conference Agenda and Report. Mr. W. Owen Coates presided over a large attendance.

Mr. J. Chaston reported also on the proceedings of the National Executive Council. A report was also received from the D.O.S. notifying the formation of the Holland County Council Branch and on negotiations with authorities in connection with Circular 1222.

At the conclusion of the meeting the delegates were entertained to tea at the Black Boy Hotel by the Nottinghamshire County Council Branch, on whose behalf Mr. B. W. L. Bulkeley (Director of Education, Notts County Council) offered a warm welcome to the members.

## PARK HOSPITAL, FLIXTON

During the last month the Park Hospital Branch has been very active. Its members have visited the Radio Station at Manchester to witness the North National broadcast, and also the works of the Lancashire Steel Corporation at Partington, which is one of the largest steel works in Great Britain. Two most enjoyable and instructive evenings were spent.

## HOLLAND

Holland County Council officials have formed a branch. Mr. C. M. Hensman is hon. secretary. The new colleagues are assured of a hearty welcome by the Association.

## LEEDS

The general secretary has interviewed the Finance and General Purposes Committee of the Leeds Corporation on the question of staff salaries generally. An excellent case was presented, and, at the time of going to Press, the matter is under consideration.

## NEWPORT

There was a large attendance at the annual general meeting of the Newport (Mon.) Branch on March 21. Mr. W. A. Gunn presided. A comprehensive report of the year's activities was submitted and approved, and a hearty vote of thanks accorded Mr. A. H. Dunn, Mr. A. H. Shearn and Mr. H. N. Fitt for their valuable services in negotiating a satisfactory scheme of temporary reductions in salaries with the Corporation Economy Committee. Mr. C. F. Ward was elected president for the ensuing year.

## NORTH RIDING

For the purpose of discussing the situation arising out of the economic crisis, the North Riding County Officers' Branch (which now numbers over 100 members) held a meeting on Saturday, April 9, at Guisborough. The meeting was addressed by the D.O.S.

## PONTEFRACT

The Pontefract and District Branch held a special general meeting, at which the D.O.S. spoke of the privileges offered by the Nalگو Provident Society and the Approved Society. The meeting was presided over by Mr. S. E. Grimshaw, Education Officer.

## SCARBOROUGH

As a result of an interview which the D.O.S. had with the chairman of the Electricity Committee, with a view of inducing that committee to designate the posts of the electricity staff for superannuation purposes, the committee recommended the Council to place the electricity staff under the superannuation scheme of the Corporation. The recommendation was subsequently adopted by the Council.

## SWANSEA

The curtailing of Unemployment Relief Schemes and other "economy" measures has led to re-organisation in the Swansea Surveyor's Department which is regarded as too drastic by the officials. The intervention of the branch resulted in the Council referring the matter back to the Highways Committee and that committee has received the D.O.S. as a deputation. Objection was raised to the dismissal of two technical assistants who had been engaged as permanent officers and the transferring of two other permanent technical assistants to temporary posts at reduced salaries.

## SOLIHULL

The D.O.S. attended a general meeting of the Solihull Branch on April 8, when there was a general discussion on the activities of the association. Mr. G. A. Lewis, was elected hon. secretary in place of Mr. R. D. Williams, resigned owing to pressure of work, and Mr. A. J. Davies was re-elected hon. treasurer. Mr. Williams was thanked for his services as first hon. secretary of the branch.

## TADCASTER

Legal action has been taken on behalf of an officer, against whom defamatory statements were uttered. The defendant has forwarded a letter of apology and withdrawal to the Rural District Council and to the officer in question, and this has been published in the local press. The cost of publication and the Association's legal charges have been discharged by the defendant.

## NORTHUMBERLAND

Arising from an interview which the D.O.S. had with the Tyne Port Sanitary Authority on behalf of the Inspectors, certain improvements in service conditions have been effected. There has been a reduction in the amount of economy cut, and the matter will be reviewed at the end of twelve months; hours of duty to be definitely fixed; certain payments are to be granted in respect of overtime worked; and the question of superannuation is to be considered. The Clerk was instructed to communicate with the Northumberland (Local Authorities) Joint Superannuation Committee for terms and conditions under which the Joint Committee would accept the Authority to its scheme.



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## BRANCH & DISTRICT NEWS

### WALSALL

The second annual dinner of the Walsall and District Branch was held at the Hatherton Masonic Hall, Walsall, on March 4. Proposing "The County Borough of Walsall," Mr. J. E. N. Davis, D.O.S., stated that whenever he had been associated with negotiations at Walsall, he had come away feeling that on the part of the Council there was a real desire to examine any grievances and to satisfy any reasonable request put forward.

Alderman Ingram said he had seen much evidence that N.A.L.G.O. was out to remove difficulties and to make the municipal machine run smoothly. Responding, Mr. G. C. V. Cant said while they were frankly working for better conditions, they recognised their responsibility in encouraging the utmost efficiency and ability in their members. Mr. Cant also paid a tribute to the Walsall Branch.

### WARWICK

At a meeting of the Warwickshire Relieving Officers' Association on April 9, it was decided to form a Warwick County Council Branch of N.A.L.G.O. Mr. P. Coy (Warwick) was elected chairman and Mr. J. C. Keen (Sutton Coldfield) hon. secretary.

### WATH, BOLTON AND THURNSCOE

A joint meeting of the Mexborough and District, and Wath, Bolton and Thurnscoe Branches was held on March 31, and addressed by Mr. F. Marsden and Mr. J. B. Swinden. There was a good attendance of members, and considerable interest aroused by references to the wonderful range of activities now undertaken by the Association. Supper, at the termination of the meeting, brought to a close a very interesting evening.

### WEDNESBURY

A successful Wednesbury Branch dance was held in the Town Hall on March 2, at which about 160 people were present.

### WEST HARTLEPOOL

"Don't wait for a fairy godmother to come along and get you out of your industrial troubles, do something yourselves." This was the burden of a speech which Coun. W. H. E. Sparks made at the recent N.A.L.G.O. dinner at the Grand Hotel, West Hartlepool.

Presiding over the function was Mr. Harold W. Stanton, the Town Clerk, the corporation being well represented.

Mr. Lambert, giving the toast of "The Mayor and Corporation," emphasised that it must not be thought that N.A.L.G.O. were entirely satisfied with the treatment it received at the hands of the council. On the whole they had nothing of which to complain, but there was one exception superannuation. "We cannot understand," he said, "the logic of a situation which permits the officers and the staffs in neighbouring towns no better than West Hartlepool to receive superannuation when it is forbidden to us; nor can we understand why superannuation is vouchsafed to some of the members and not to others."

Remarking that he thought the Association's suggestion of a joint committee to be a very good one, Councillor Sparks said "I am afraid the members of the Council do not really know the staff and the work done by them, and a joint committee, as suggested by N.A.L.G.O., would give an opportunity for an interchange of ideas which would make for a more harmonious working between the corporation and its employees."

Mr. F. Marsden, Vice-president of the Association, responding to the toast, referred to the system of setting up joint committees of officials and members of councils, and said that a great many councils have realised that the towns that were most happily governed were those where such committees had been formed.

### WEST MIDLAND

The following branches were represented at a meeting of the West Midland District Committee at the Council House, Coventry, on April 9: Birmingham, Burton-on-Trent, Cannock, Coseley, Coventry, Dudley, Newcastle, Sedgley, Smethwick, Shrewsbury, Solihull,

Stafford, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, Walsall, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, Worcester City, and Worcestershire. Mr. F. Harrod, Director of Education, Coventry; Mr. F. Gee, Borough Treasurer, Shrewsbury; and Mr. V. J. Moore, Director of Education, Walsall; vice-presidents of the District Committee also attended, and Mr. G. A. Stone (Worcester County Council) presided.

Consideration of the Conference Agenda and N.E.C. Report passed with little critical comment. The clause in the report relating to the remuneration of members of the Management Committee of the Building Society was objected to and the delegates to the Conference were instructed to oppose it.

In a report from the D.O.S. attention was drawn to the enormous increase in support of the B. and O. Fund in the West Midlands. Over £1,000 was raised in 1931 as compared with £116 ten years ago. Last year the highest amount was raised by Stoke-on-Trent (£202 15s. 5d.), while Birmingham subscribed the highest average per head (14s. 3d. per member).

### WORCESTER

At the Guildhall, Worcester, on March 22, the Deputy Mayor unveiled and handed over to the city a portrait of the late Mr. Samuel Southall, Town Clerk of the city from 1881 to 1931. Mr. Southall acted as Mayor in 1921-22 and was given the honorary freedom of the city in 1924. Officials have grateful recollections of the late Mr. Southall, whose sympathy with the organisation, of which for many years he was a member and a vice-president of the West Midland District Committee, was appreciated.

### WORKSOP

The second annual dinner of the Worksop Branch was held at the Golden Ball Hotel, Worksop, on March 14. Mr. C. P. Ingham, Clerk of the Worksop R.D.C., presided over a large company which included the first mayor and mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Longbottom, Mr. W. Ghest, J.P., chairman of the R.D.C., and Mr. A. N. Schofield, first Town Clerk of Worksop.

Proposing "The President," Mr. M. S. Mason, Borough Electrical Engineer, paid a warm tribute to Mr. Ingham's valuable service to the Association.

### MOVEMENTS OF MEMBERS

Mr. A. S. Walker, Islington Institution, L.C.C., joins the staff at Newington Institution, (London County Council) as Labour Master.

Miss E. M. Hammett, Staff Nurse, New End Hospital (L.C.C.), has been appointed Staff Nurse, St. Mary Abbott's Hospital.

Mr. C. W. Stokes, Southern Relief Station (Area No. 8, L.C.C.), has been transferred to Wandsworth Institution (L.C.C.).

Mr. F. J. Hocking, a member of the Oxford Branch has been appointed Chief Clerk, Public Health Department, Ilford.

A. Walsh, late of Bath, goes to Staffordshire C. as Inspector of Weights and Measures.

G. N. Maynard, of Dover, has been appointed to the Leek U.D.C., as Temporary Engineering Assistant.

F. H. Leggat, Salisbury Branch, goes to Winchester as Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

— Lethbridge, Southampton, transferred to Plymouth as Sanitary Inspector.

North Riding C.C. has appointed E. R. Holland, Brighton, on the Relieving Staff.



## SCOTTISH NOTES

By the D.O.S.

THE Scottish District Committee meeting held in Glasgow on April 2, occupied itself chiefly in a discussion on legal problems. Mr. Hugh Begg, F.R.C.V.S., Chairman of the Council, presided. On the question of the holding of a Summer School at St. Andrews in July, the Council had already formulated plans and the details of the programme were approved without debate. The same applied to the establishment of a Diploma in Public Administration by the Glasgow School of Social Study.

Mr. Walls, the Convener of the Education Committee, submitted a report on these matters. Mr. Galbraith, the Convener of the Propaganda Committee, also reported progressive work. This Committee was granted a sum not exceeding £5 to defray the expenses of a propaganda meeting proposed to be held in the Borders.

A vexed question arose on the report of Mr. Barland, Convener of the Law and Parliamentary Committee. Are officials awarded compensation under the Education Act and the Rating Act entitled to receive such compensation if they now have salaries greater than in 1926? Legal opinion is somewhat divided. The Secretary, Mr. Mortimer, stated that he had written to Fife County Council, one of the Counties that refuses to pay the compensation, asking the Council to join with the Association in submitting a Special or Stated Case to the Court. The Council had agreed to do so if the other Counties would share the expense, but the other Counties had refused. The question of further action is under consideration.

On the question of the legality of salary cuts on transferred officers and on officials such as Medical Officers, Sanitary Inspectors, and Inspectors of Poor, who have statutory protection or have hitherto been understood to have such protection, the Committee, acting on the advice of counsel, agreed to take no action in the Courts, and the Council approved.

## AYRSHIRE OFFICIAL'S ACTION

The Secretary reported on the progress of an action by an Ayrshire official, and he asked instructions as to engaging Junior Counsel, the present Junior, Mr. Reid, having taken silk. It was agreed that Mr. Clyde be asked to act as Junior.

The Secretary reported on the case of alleged wrongful dismissal of a Peebles official and that he, the official, had since received a new appointment from the Council.

## ANNUAL SPORTS DAY

Upon the recommendation of the Sports Committee the Sports Day be held at Bridge of Allan in September, some discussion took place on details and these matters were ultimately left with the Committee to determine.

## PERTH

The half-yearly meeting was held in Perth on March 25, Mr. Paterson, Piermaster, presiding. Mr. Hugh Begg, Chairman of the Scottish Council, gave an interesting address and the D.O.S. spoke of the Branch's other interests. The Branch is awarding three scholarships for the Summer School.

## GLASGOW EXECUTIVE

At the meeting held on April 4 there was a recommendation to award ten scholarships for the Summer School. There ought to be keen competition.

## EDINBURGH

At the Edinburgh branch meeting on April 12 the D.O.S. reported on the holiday question. There was a sharp division of opinion as to what action should be taken at present on this question. By the casting vote of the Chairman the D.O.S. was instructed to see certain chief officials on the subject. Mr. Lawson, the secretary, submitted proposed draft of Trading Guild, which was approved, and he reported on several other questions of interest.

## BRANCH AND DISTRICT NEWS

(Continued from page 440)

## MERTON AND MORDEN

The first annual dinner of the Merton and Morden Branch was held at the George Inn, Morden, on April 7, the president, Mr. C. J. Mountfield, occupying chair. Mr. H. Slater, D.O.S., proposed the toast of the branch, the chairman replying.

Neither shirking work nor play,  
Always trying to be gay,  
Living for a brighter day,  
Growing thin on lessened pay,  
Oh, take those — "cuts" away.

## TYLDESLEY

The Tyldesley Branch of N.A.L.G.O. held a whist drive and dance in the Church House, Tyldesley, on March 30. Prizes were presented by Dr. T. E. Flitcroft, Medical Officer of Health, and President of the Branch. Mr. L. Wright was the M.C. for dancing, and Mr. J. Atkinson and Mr. J. Rowson for whist. The proceeds, amounting to £3, were for the B. & O. Fund.

## COLCHESTER

Novelty characterised a social held on March 31 under the auspices of the Colchester branch of N.A.L.G.O. The entertainment comprised a goey stage production by a N.A.L.G.O. concert party, under the direction of Mr. C. Nicholson, followed by dancing. The Mayor and Mayoress, Cr. and Mrs. G. W. B. Hazell, attended, and were welcomed by the president of the branch, Mr. P. W. Bennett.

## JUNE "L.G.S."

*The June issue of "Local Government Service" will be an enlarged issue containing a full account of the proceedings of the Conference at Weston-super-Mare.*

## PRESTON

The Social Committee of the Preston branch of N.A.L.G.O. held its second dance of the season on March 4, at the Regent Ballroom. Among those present were the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. Councillor and Mrs. Rainford, the Town Clerk, Sir Alfred Howarth, and Lady Howarth, the Borough Treasurer, Mr. W. Allison Davies, and Mrs. Davies.

## GREENWICH

The last Greenwich branch dance of the season held on March 16 was again very successful, there being a company of between seventy and eighty present. Dr. Doris Ball presented spot prizes and Mr. Foulger filled the role of M.C. The Entertainments Sub-Committee will, in due course, be considering the social programme for 1932-3. One suggestion which has been made is that of literary and debating evenings. Dramatic Society is also being considered.

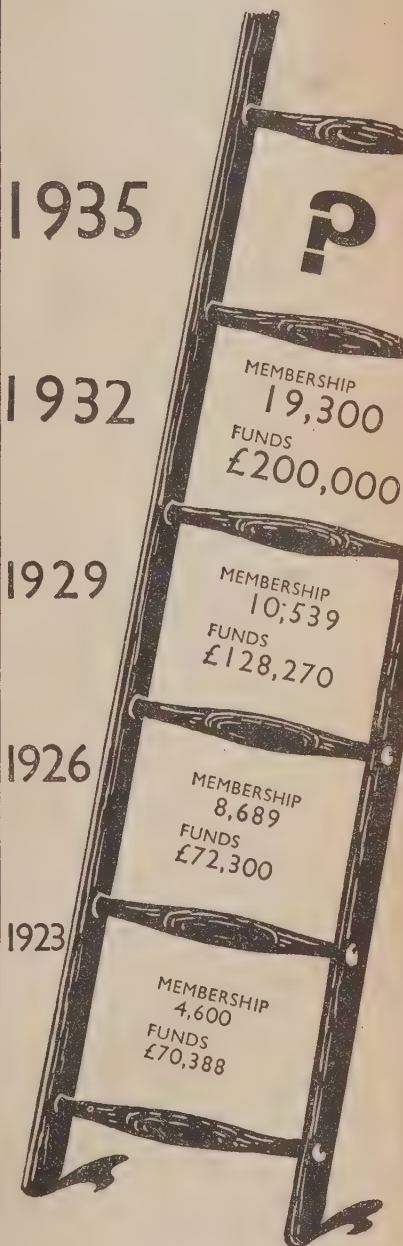
## EPSOM

On April 6, members of the Epsom Municipal Officers' Association engaged the members of the staff of the Epsom R.D.C. in a football match, which resulted in a win for the Association by five goals to nil. Following the match a successful and well-attended dance-social, organised by the Association, was held at the Capitol Ballroom, Epsom. Over 150 persons participated in dancing and whist. At the close of the function, Mrs. Skelton, wife of Councillor H. Skelton, distributed the prizes.

## N.A.L.G.O.

APPROVED SOCIETY

Always Mounting

24 ABINGDON STREET  
WESTMINSTER, S.W.1



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS

HEADQUARTERS:

24 ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER,  
S.W.1.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 2. Voting Papers to be in hands of Secretary of District Committee by this date.
- " 2. Counting of votes for N.E.C. commences in each district.
- " 13. Conference Competitions.
- " 13. Official Reception by Chairman of Weston-super-Mare U.D.C., 7.30 p.m.
- " 14. Whit Saturday. First day of Conference Proceedings.
- " 14. Logonia Annual General Meeting, 4.30 p.m.
- " 15. Divine Service at Parish Church (St. John), Weston-super-Mare, 11 a.m. (assemble Town Hall, 10.30 a.m.).
- " 16. Nalgo Provident Society Annual General Meeting, 9 a.m.
- " 16. Whit Monday (Bank Holiday). Second day of Conference Proceedings.
- " 16. Meeting of National Executive Council.
- " 26. N.A.L.G.O. Examinations.
- " 27. N.A.L.G.O. Examinations.
- " 28. N.A.L.G.O. Examinations.
- " 31. Branches to remit all moneys due to the Association to Headquarters.

For detailed daily programme of Annual Conference at Weston-super-Mare see page 416 of the April issue. Representatives are referred to page 2 of the Official Conference Handbook.

### CONFERENCE TRAVELLING FACILITIES

Arrangements have been made with the Railway Clearing House whereby the railway companies in Great Britain with the exception of the Metropolitan, Metropolitan District, and London Electric Railway Companies have agreed to issue tickets, available from May 11-19 at the ordinary single fare and one-third for the double journey (fractions of 3d. reckoned as 3d.) to passengers travelling to Weston-super-Mare.

Vouchers have been issued to the representatives appointed to attend the Conference. The voucher must be produced and surrendered at the local booking office when the representatives book their tickets.

### COST OF LIVING

Below we give the average monthly percentage increase over the level of July, 1914, in the Cost of Living Index for the past six months: November, 46; December, 48; January, 47; February, 47; March, 46; April, 44. The percentage increases in each of the five groups on which the Index Figure is based are as follows:

	FEB.	MAR.	APR.
Food .. ..	31	29	26
Rent .. ..	54	54	54
Clothing ..	90	90	90
Fuel and Light	75	75	75
Other Items ..	75	75	75

The Ministry of Labour Gazette states that the fall of 3 points in the Food Group is mainly owing to reductions in the price of eggs, butter and milk.

### N.A.L.G.O. CRUISE, 1932

The Steamer will sail from Liverpool on Saturday, July 23.

Duration: 22 days.

Fare (inclusive of booking fee and gratuities), £23

Apply to L. HILL,

General Secretary.

24 Abingdon Street, S.W.1.

## HEADQUARTERS AND BRANCHES

List of Communications sent from Headquarters  
to Branches  
MARCH 31

### Circular No. 22/Conf.

Enclosing copies of the Annual Report and Conference Agenda equal to the number of representatives on the District Committee and containing instructions regarding the issue of voting papers for the election of the National Executive Council to members and their dispatch to the honorary secretary of the District Committee.

### Circular No. 24 Conf. (to Conference Delegates)

Enclosing first dispatch of literature to delegates to the Annual Conference; containing information regarding further supply of forms, etc., instructions regarding the appointment of substitutes and the last date for the receipt by Headquarters of considered amendments.

APRIL

### Circular No. 25 BO.

Enclosing envelope for contributions for the

of the means test and the attitude of the Minister thereon; requesting information regarding the action taken by the officers of the various authorities covered by the branches and advising early application by officers who might not have applied to their authorities.

### Circular No. 31 Prov. (To Local Correspondents of the Provident Society).

Enclosing sufficient copies of the Convening Notice and Agenda of the Annual General Meeting of the Provident Society to enable one copy to be handed to each member and one copy of the minutes of the 1931 Annual General Meeting.

### Circular No. 32 BO.

Enclosing a copy of the entry form in connection with the Photographic Competition organised by the Management Committee in aid of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund.

### Circular No. 33 BO.

Containing details regarding the collection of tinfoil, the proceeds from the sale of which will be credited to the Fund and requesting branch secretaries to organise such collection within the areas of their respective branches.



MADEIRA—A VIEW FROM THE HILLS

Benevolent and Orphan Fund Purse Session; containing details of the procedure to be adopted regarding the return of the purses to Headquarters, the announcement of the amounts subscribed, and the presentation of the trophies at the Annual Conference.

### Circular No. 26 BO.

Containing resolutions passed by the Management Committee of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund regarding the granting of assistance to applicants who have capital, but no dependents.

### Circular No. 27 Gen.

Containing details of the N.A.L.G.O. Annual "Sunshine" Cruise, the Baltic Cruises and the Croyde Bay Holiday Camp and enclosing a copy of an illustrated list of articles in the Association's colours.

### Circular No. 28 Gen.

Requesting branch secretaries to notify Headquarters of the decisions reached by Local Authorities in regard to the termination or modification of deductions from salaries on the ground of national economy.

### Circular No. 29 Gen.

Containing information concerning a firm that has been endeavouring to trade with branches.

### Circular No. 30 PLTO.

Containing information of the action taken by the Association to induce the Ministry of Labour to circularise County and County Borough Councils on the need for recognising the extra work imposed on members of the Public Assistance Staffs, owing to the imposition

### Circular No. 34 Gen.

(a) Re-affirming the policy, contained in Circular No. 5, of the Association in regard to the Electrical Power Engineers' Association; and asking branches not to negotiate with local authorities on matters affecting conditions of service of technical staff in the electricity department.

Containing information regarding the newly formed Association of Municipal Transport Managers, particularly in regard to the collection and allocation of subscriptions from its members to the local branches.

APRIL 14

### Circular No. 35 Gen.

Enclosing two copies of quarterly return No. 2 and requesting that one copy, duly completed, shall be returned to Headquarters as soon as possible after April 30.

### CAMP SONG COMPETITION

One hundred and twenty-six entries were received in the competition advertised in the February, 1932, issue of LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE for setting the words of the Camp Song to music. Sir Dan Godfrey, Musical Director, Bournemouth, consented to act as adjudicator, and the Association is indebted to him for his assistance. On his recommendation, the entry submitted by Mr. E. Holt, of the Halifax Branch, who wrote under the nom-de-plume of "Mimosa," was awarded the prize of £5 5s.



# LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Editorial and Advertisement Offices,  
3 and 4 Clement's Inn, Strand, London,  
W.C.2.

Telephone: Holborn 2288-2289.

Contributions on topical Local Govern-  
ment problems are invited, and will  
receive careful consideration, but the  
Editor cannot accept responsibility for the  
safety of manuscripts submitted for his  
consideration.

Authoritative local news on matters  
having more than a purely local interest  
is welcomed.

Legal and other inquiries relating to  
Local Government will be answered  
promptly.

All communications should be addressed  
to THE EDITOR.

MAY

1932

## PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

	Page
Weston-super-Mare .. ..	431-3
N.A.L.G.O. Student's Notes ..	434
Local Government Officers* in	
European Countries .. ..	436
Deductions for Income Tax ..	438
Branch and District News ..	439-41
Headquarters Notices .. ..	442
Notes of the Month .. ..	443
Readers' Notes and Book Reviews	444
Home Gardening .. ..	445
Chess .. ..	448
Insurance Gossip .. ..	450

## NOTES OF THE MONTH

### WESTON-SUPER-MARE

THE stage is set at Weston-super-Mare for the Annual Conference of the Association. There is no reason to assume that this year's gathering will be less enjoyable than any previous conference. The Conference Council of the Somerset County Branch and the members of the Urban District Council of Weston-super-Mare have spared no effort to make an attractive programme, and given that touch of warmth and sunshine which makes all the difference to a gathering of this kind, every visitor will be charmed with the arrangements that have been made for his entertainment and comfort, and also with the town and the amenities which the district provides.

Naturally the business side of the Conference is the first consideration and the programme this year is up to standard. Every member of the Association who takes the trouble to read the Annual Report of the National Executive Council will be impressed with the enormous strides the Association has made during the last twelve months. The present Report excels any of its predecessors as a record of achievement, expansion and advancement, and it answers completely any doubt whether the Association is giving full value for the moderate subscriptions which are paid.

### A PLEA FOR ORPHANS

IF we turn to the Report and Financial Statement of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund, and when we consider that the ever-increasing claims upon that Fund are indications of progress, then we shall admit that the Benevolent and Orphan Fund will shortly reach the point beyond which it cannot progress further. It is not in that direction alone that progress should be measured. The income should always be in excess of outgoings; and what is more important, that ratio should not be maintained at the expense of those who are in distress. It would not be overstating the case to say that of all N.A.L.G.O.'s activities, the Benevolent and Orphan Fund is the one which makes the strongest appeal to the imagination of its members. It has been described on many occasions as the Pride of the Association. It is the one activity which brings into play those finer points of human consideration which make collective effort a joy, and gives in satisfaction to those who work for the Fund, perhaps, a greater return than any other activity. It appeals to the higher traits of our nature. It opens out wide fields for administering succour and relief to those who, by misfortune, have to be temporarily or permanently dependent upon other efforts than their own. It embraces every characteristic that makes life worth living, and it is a practical application of the Spirit of N.A.L.G.O.

We recognise these facts in writing and in speaking, and yet when we look the financial position squarely in the face we have to admit that we rapidly approach the day when we shall have to say, "We are very sorry but we cannot give any more assistance." When that day arrives it will be a calamity, not to the Association, but to the prestige of the local government service. It will make every laudatory sentence sound hollow and insincere. During the past year the Management Committee has spent nearly half the interest and dividends earned on the investments to meet the claims of the Fund. In other words, outgoings exceeded the subscription income by nearly £1,000. For the honour of the Association let this be the last occasion that Conference will be presented with such an unsatisfactory financial position.

During the past year help was given in 392 cases; more than one case a day. Reflect for a moment on this. It means that every day in the year at least one member, or those who have been left behind by a late member, are in dire need. The total number of subscribing members was 33,366, approximately half the Association's membership, and the Branch statistics show that the percentage of contributing members to the Benevolent Fund ranges from less than one per cent. to a hundred per cent. They show quite clearly that everyone is not pulling his or her weight; some branches are carrying the burden. The latter have a right to expect that members in the other districts should put their shoulders to the wheel. We believe this unevenness in membership is due to nothing more serious than forgetfulness.

When Mr. H. S. Newton, the Chairman of the Management Committee, announced that it was his ambition to see a Reserve Fund of £100,000, his pronouncement was received with applause from every Conference delegate. We are a long way from that happy position and we must realise that it will not be reached by the wave of a wand; neither will it fall like manna from heaven. It can be attained only by putting our backs into raising money for the Benevolent and Orphan Fund by organised functions, and each one paying at least the modest annual subscription of two shillings and sixpence. This must be the clarion call to greater effort. Can we not make next year's purse contributions at least £20,000?

### NALGO HOUSE, MATLOCK

THE introduction to that part of the Annual Report devoted to the Association's Convalescent Home at Matlock states that the Home continues to welcome members who need peace, comfort and good food, to prepare them for the business world after spells of illness. The Home was opened in 1923, and each year has shown a slow but steady increase in the number of members who use it. Considering the comfort that is offered and the charm of the house and its surroundings, it is a puzzle to all concerned that the Home has not a continuous waiting list. Twenty is the maximum number that can be accommodated, yet the returns for last year show that the average number in residence each week was 13 only. There must always be a large number of members on the sick list. Perhaps the majority, only too anxious to get back to work at the earliest possible moment, would regard a period of convalescence as more or less a luxury. A question of this nature is purely personal, and cannot be answered by a printed appeal, "Come to Matlock." On the other hand, we can say to all who are advised to recuperate after a serious illness that they could not find a more delightful home than Nalگو House.



# READERS' NOTES

By JACOB TONSON

**T**HERE are evidences in the book-world of the approach of spring, though many publishers seem to be holding back important work.

*Farmer's Glory*, by A. G. Street (Faber, 7s. 6d.), whilst it has a good deal in it on farm methods and management is very much more. The book is a record of farming in the South of England and in Canada from 1906 to 1930, told by a gentleman farmer with some literary skill. Experiences are varied and the chronicle is full of interest even if one is not particularly drawn to the science of farming. Starting as a youth on his father's farm, trained in an agricultural college and in the hard school of experience, his account of farm life, farm labourers and farm philosophy is fascinating.

The vivid yellow jacket which usually enfolds the fiction published by Victor Gollancz, inspires more than ordinary hope, and one is seldom disappointed. Last month I drew attention to *The Brothers*, by L. A. G. Strong, and by way of contrast let me recommend *The Garden* by the same writer and publisher. Now in a cheap (3s. 6d.) edition, and selected as one of the best novels of 1931, it is the story of a boy whose mother was Irish, his father a prig, nationality in this sense matters not, but he was English. It relates the boy's experiences on his annual visits to his grandparents near Dublin over a long number of years; the quaint characters he meets are delightfully described. The development of his own character and the contrasts he draws between the austerity of his home life and the freeness of the Irish home surroundings are cleverly done. There are many surprises in this delightful book which ends with the beginning of the Great War. Quaint Irish characters are unfolded to view: Paddy, the boy's instructor in the art of angling, or the gamekeeper who swears at "the bellas of the devil that blew out that bit of glass" (a sample bottle of whiskey) "that he didn't take a better breath and blow it bigger."

The epilogue is inartistic. Who wants to know the boy was killed in the war and what havoc death wrought with other members of the family?

For pure farce H. M. Raleigh's *Excess Baggage* (Methuen, 7s. 6d.), is hard to beat. From the moment when the Vicar of Much Warlock tells the Bishop of Borchester (pronounced Booster) with the sherry decanter, and thinks he has killed him, the fun is fast and furious. Hardly literature, it nevertheless makes a good literary sandwich for the brain weary.

You close *The Lost Glen* by Neil M. Gunn (Porpoise Press, 7s. 6d.) with a feeling of disappointment. It is not that there is any falling off in the descriptive passages; the calm of the lake, the beauty of glen and sky, or the wildness of the sea:—

"The sea streamed away white-capped and broke on the Cladach rocks. Streaming away before his eyes, rushing on and on, darkening, tumultuous, the wind hissing and lashing, driving them on, whipping them to froth, darkness on its low-rushing wings.

"The sea gave birth to its own fury.

"The rocks held."

Most of the characters are well drawn, but you close the book with a feeling that the picture is unfinished. The youth Ewan reaches his village home from college in disgrace; super-sensitive he tries to live it down, acting as gille to visitors at the hotel. In this role he meets a girl from London and their relationship is the central theme of the book. It ends with Ewan's murder of the girl's caddish uncle, whom he thinks has seduced his sister, and with his rowing out to sea.

Reading *The Lost Glen* and *The Garden*, one is forced to the conclusion that the ending a

(Continued at foot of next column)

# BOOK REVIEWS

**THE TRIPLE BITE**, by Brian Flynn. Price 7s. 6d. net. (John Long & Son, London.)

Mr. Brian Flynn is a member of N.A.L.G.O. and a leading light in the East Ham Branch Dramatic Society, and these simple facts give an additional interest to his publications, which now number twenty. *The Triple Bite* is better than the rest, for the simple reason that Mr. Flynn is gaining not only more popularity with each new work, but greater technical skill in working out his themes. Mr. Flynn's detective in this book has had access to the unpublished archives of Sherlock Holmes, of which one gives the clue to the case described in the volume. There is ingenuity in the theme of first rank importance. A well-known writer to *John O'London's Weekly* placed Mr. Flynn's *Murder en Route* fourth in the ten best thrillers of 1931. A new work is due almost at once and during February the first of Mr. Flynn's books was published in America. We congratulate our fellow member on his deserved success.

H. O.

**THREE LOVES**, by A. J. Cronin. Price 8s. 6d. (Israel Gollancz, London.)

In his second novel Dr. Cronin essays another study in that type of resolute character which the Greeks were accustomed to regard as the Epitome of Fate. His portrait of James Brodie in *Hatter's Castle*—a dour oppressing tyrant who destroys every person with whom he comes in contact and himself, at last—is among the more notable studies in megalomania. But whereas Brodie was dominated by love of power, Lucy, in *Three Loves*, derives her self-destroying motive force first from her jealous love for her husband, next from her jealous love for her son, and finally from her love for Jesus, shattered in her last few months by seclusion in a Belgian convent.

In the early pages of the book there is a good deal in the elucidation of Lucy's character that is strained and false psychologically. It would be impossible, for example, for any sane woman to plead for her husband's promotion in his employer's presence, as Lucy pleads for Frank when Lennox and her husband are both seated at her own table. As the book proceeds, however, it becomes more consistent with mental reality. Lucy's walk up the gravel paths towards Glasgow University, when her son takes his degree in medicine, in the home-made frock and her broken shoes, reminds the reader of classical fiction of Jude's monologue outside the Sheldonian which Hardy introduced in *Jude the Obscure* as his commentary on the organisation of the older universities of England. Dr. Cronin has shown his affinities still more clearly in his second book. They are with Dostoevsky among the Russians, and with Hardy and Emily Brontë among our own people. He moves on the tragic plane. But in *Three Loves* he strikes a note of pathos—the grave of all but the real artists—not to be found in *Hatter's Castle*, all the sorrow in Mrs. Brodie's dying notwithstanding. Not many writers of any time have drawn a sadder picture than Lucy, hurried to her doom by the strength of

book, like ending a sermon, is the most difficult part of the undertaking. In the one case too much is disclosed; in the other, you are left guessing in a very annoying way. Mr. Gunn could give us a good straight story if he would.

Granted, there are innumerable books about Dickens and his work, yet Sitwell's *Dickens* (Chatto, 2s.), serves very well as a refresher. It is largely appreciative and adds expression to the view that whilst many of Dickens' characters are caricature in essence they never fail as humans. One cannot agree with his strictures concerning Peter Pan in the comparison with Oliver Twist; the two are not comparable. Whether or not you agree with Sitwell's matter his manner is excellent.

an inevitable will. Nor has any other shown so clearly how the petty, exact regulation of life assumed in religious socialism defeats its own ends, and turns what should be a service of love into needless regulations maliciously interpreted because their administrators are withdrawn from contact with a more generous world.

There are moments when the action in Dr. Cronin's novels is delayed. But in both his stories there is food for thought on the issues of our life, as well as uncommon skill in the delineation of the type which lives by conscious self-determination.

E. C. F.

**PRINCIPLES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW**. By W. Ivor Jennings, M.A., LL.B., Barrister-at-Law. Price 6s. University of London Press, Ltd., London.

Too frequently the complaint is heard that there are not sufficient books on local government in England and Wales, compared with certain foreign countries. This complaint should be removed as the need for study becomes more apparent.

Already the members of the staff of the London School of Economics have published several brilliant books and pamphlets on this subject and within the last few weeks the University of London Press has issued the book which is the occasion for this review. It is a valuable contribution to the library of the student who wishes to understand the place of local government in the English legal system, the relations between the central government and local authorities, the principles underlying the acquisition of new powers, and the control of local authorities by the Courts.

The organisation of local government is dealt with in outline only and no attempt has been made to deal with specific functions. This has left Mr. Jennings free to develop his clear and lucid description of principles. Mr. Jennings will be remembered as one of the lecturers at the N.A.L.G.O. Summer School in 1931.

T. II.

**RIGHT OF WAY**, by Harold Bindloss. Price 7s. 6d. net. (Ward, Lock & Co., London.)

The spring list would be incomplete without a contribution by this popular writer. This novel is concerned with the construction of a factory in Cumberland which calls for the building of a dam. An enemy of the principal character makes an attempt to wreck the dam, and from that incident the romance sweeps forward in a way which shows that Mr. Harold Bindloss has lost none of his power to interest and enthral.

A. B.

**THE 1932 CITY MANAGER YEARBOOK**. Edited by Clarence E. Redley and Oliver F. Nolting. Price \$2. International City Managers' Association, 925 East 60 Street, Chicago.

This volume contains a record of council-manager developments in 1931, the proceedings of the 1931 Conference of the International City Managers' Association, an up-to-date directory of council-manager cities and city managers, and a list of the members of the International City Managers' Association. The section covering council-manager developments traces the growth of the council-manager plan by years, indicates the percentage of manager cities by population groups, and refers to the cities which rejected proposals to adopt the plan, court decisions, legislation, and the county-manager plan.

An average length of service for all city managers in the profession at the end of 1931 was five years and three months; seventy-eight of the 402 city managers then in office had served two or more cities. Additional data includes average salaries by population groups, appointments and promotions.



# HOME GARDENING

By WALTER P. WRIGHT

Author of *Everyman's Encyclopaedia of Gardening, Scientific and Practical Gardening, etc.*

MY readers will have observed the prophecy of a dry summer, which appears to be based on nothing more substantial than the dry winter. There is moisture in the soil now, and keeping it there by careful hoeing among young plants must be beneficial. I cannot go on harping about it, so let me say once for all that it is the best preventive of drought, and will be throughout the spring and summer.

\* \* \*

There is one section of trees and shrubs which may be planted early in May, and that is the evergreen. Even young Rhododendrons with buds often shift quite well in the early Month, especially if a ball of soil is sent with a mass of roots. Box, Lonicera, and Yew (good for hedges) and Heaths (Erica, etc.) the same. Such a ball of fibres in soil is best secured by cutting a shallow trench round first, then prising up each shrub by passing the spade beneath it. Re-planting must be prompt and if it is done while warm showers prevail re-establishment should follow readily. A good selection of evergreens should include Aucuba (variegated berrying form), Berberis Wilsonae and B. Darwini, Camellia, Cotoneaster microphylla, Daphne genkwa, Euonymus japonicus aureus, Laurus, Mahonia aquifolium, Olearia stellulata, Prunella, Senecio Grayii, and Veronica Blue Bird. Most of these will do in shade if it is not very dense and drippy. If there is a good local dealer all the better, because by arrangement the lifting, delivery and re-planting can be done the same day. Hasty, careless lifting and delay in re-planting might mean failure.

\* \* \*

Early May is a good time to plant Water lilies and other aquatics. You may have Nymphaeas in 2 feet of water, together with other things, by packing strong crowns surrounded by decayed turf (or loam enclosed within a lining of moss) in an open wicker or wire basket. I would add one or two Reed lilies (Typha) to break the uniformity.

\* \* \*

Anticipating a doubt by some amateur Sweet Pea growers whether the first stopping at 6 inches high suffices for the season, I would say that further pruning is absolutely necessary for exhibition culture and very desirable for ordinary purposes. Plants to yield the finest long-stemmed sprays must not have more than three stems and some varieties are better with two or even one only. Moreover, the lateral shoots that appear on them must be checked off early, as though they were tomatoes. Each plant will stand clear of its neighbours on a long bamboo or other stake. Where flowers for the house constitute the main object, ordinary Pea boughs may be used in the interests of economy, but I would plant at least nine inches apart and restrict the number of main shoots to three or four and the laterals on each to two or three. This will provide plenty of shoots to cover the sticks and at the same time ensure a succession of good flowers—days provided regular gathering is pursued and the soil is kept moist.

\* \* \*

One hears much about hiving in these days. I have no quarrel with hivers so long as they always remember to hive round their plots in beds at night in slug-time with a box of slaked lime, or with a pannikin of brine in one hand and an old dinner fork mounted on a stick in the other. And let them bear in mind that in the early morning slugs may often be found tucked away in the drainage-hole of a flower-pot, or on the bottom of a cutting-box, or in the frame.

Another inspiring hike is that round the Rose beds, up and down the greenhouse, and along the borders in search of green fly. A grand glow is felt at the striking down of the quarry outdoors with a syringe and a pail of very hot water (150 F.) in every gallon of which 1 ounce of washing soda has been dissolved; under glass by starting a seedsman's vaporiser and then gracefully retiring.

\* \* \*

I mentioned in my March article that I meant to sow Columbines early in May this year. So I shall Primroses, Polyanthuses, perennials Lupins, Delphiniums, Geums, and some biennials, but not Wallflowers. I shall try to find room in a frame for the Primroses and Polyanthuses, because I am more and more impressed with the importance of getting them up as quickly as possible. Do not some of us make a mistake in sowing biennials and perennials in any old corner where there happens to be room, instead of reserving a selected spot for them and giving it special treatment and constant watchfulness?

\* \* \*

I suggest overhauling the room plants, examining the drainage of the pots and the density of the mass of roots with a view to re-potting if necessary; also removing any unhealthy leaves. Much cheap fun has been extracted from the Aspidistra without disturbing its position as the best all-rounder. The best Fern for rooms is the Holly, the best Asparagus is Sprengerii, and the best member of the Monkey Puzzle genus is Araucaria excelsa. All these are splendid room plants.

\* \* \*

**BRIEF MEMS: VEGETABLES.**—Run the hoe between young potatoes and earth at 9 inches high. There is still time to plant. Sow Savoys, Coleworts, and Broccolis for late greens. Sow kidney beans, both French and runner, late peas, carrots, beet, cabbages for autumn, leeks, lettuces, and radishes. Hoe between seedling greens. Disbud tomatoes and shift young plants in small pots to larger or into the garden. Sow outdoor cucumbers and vegetable marrows, preferably under glass, but outdoors late in the month. Plant Jerusalem artichokes. Thin rows of young onions, carrots and parsnips. Stake early peas. Plant culinary herbs. Prepare trenches for early celery.

**FLOWERS.**—Complete the planting of rock and herbaceous plants, evergreens, and hardy annuals. Thin seedlings in boxes. Plant out Sweet Peas from pots and boxes and make a final sowing outside. Prepare to shade the greenhouse and conservatory. Give attention to young Begonias, Gloxinias, Dahlias, Coleuses, Heliotropes, Cyclamens, and Hydrangeas, planting, potting or re-potting as the case may be. Plant Antirrhinums from the seed boxes. Strike the tips of Aubrietias and double Arabis as cuttings. Insert a final batch of Chrysanthemum cuttings, and re-pot early batches which have rooted. Remove decaying bulbs from bowls, pots, and beds, and lay the best of them in soil in a reserve bed. Prepare the beds for their summer occupants by digging the soil deeply and manuring if necessary. Complete the pruning of Roses and the tying of ramblers to the pillars. Overhaul the summerhouse and garden furniture generally.

## BIRMINGHAM

A whist drive was held at the Marston Green Homes on April 5 in aid of the B. and O. Fund. At the conclusion Mr. J. E. N. Davis, thanking the officers and the supporters, mentioned that largely as a result of social events at Monyhull and Marston Green last year's contribution to the Fund was 14s. 3d. per head of the Birmingham membership.

## YOUR MORTGAGE REPAYED FOR YOU!

To how many persons who have a mortgage on their house is the thought constantly arising, "What will happen to the house should I die?" Is your family in a position to continue the payments or will they be forced to sell—probably at a loss? What an unfortunate ending to your life's ambition to leave them unprovided for.

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## OBTAIN A QUOTATION

State present amount of mortgage; original term, repayments and when they commenced, rate of interest, and age next birthday.

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# AUCTION BRIDGE

By NEVILLE HOBSON

## PLAY OF HAND

In addition to the general hints which have appeared in the last two issues, I propose to deal with some further practical questions.

**ELEVENTH RULE:** This rule, which should be known by all players, is as follows. If, when a player leads his fourth best of a suit (which is one of the most frequent leads at No Trumps), the value of the card led is deducted from eleven, the balance gives the number of cards higher than the one led which are not in the leader's hand. If, e.g., the eight of a suit were led, it would mean that there were three higher cards out in the other three hands, and this information is often of great value to the third player, who can draw helpful deductions after seeing Dummy.

**FALSE CARDING:** Whilst the Declarer may play as many false cards as he desires, neither opponent should, normally, violate the standard rules and generally accepted conventions so as to mislead his partner. For example, if you play a King to a trick when you hold the Queen you intimate to your partner that the latter is not held by you, and this might vitally affect his future play. At the same time, it is sometimes advantageous to "false card" even as against your partner when you have reason to believe that it is the only means of saving Game and not likely to prejudice his play.

**N.B.** The lowest card of a sequence should be played, except when leading—when the highest should generally be led.

**FINESSING:** It is usually sound play to finesse. Indeed, as a general rule, there is everything to gain by it and nothing to lose. E.g., if you have A, Q, x in dummy and lead that suit from your own hand, play the Queen in the hope that the King is on your left. After all, if the King is on your right, it will make in any case, unless it is a singleton, but otherwise the Queen will take the first trick, the Ace the second, and the opponent's King may be trapped on the third round.

When ever possible, however, postpone a finesse until the second round, as the fall of the cards may result in killing the crucial card. E.g., holding A, x, x in your own hand and K, J, x, x in Dummy, play the Ace first and then lead up to the K, J in the second round.

A warning note should be sounded as regards a form of play which is frequently seen where Q, x, x are held in one hand and A, x, x in the other. It is unsound to lead the Queen up to the Ace, as, against proper play, the only chance of making two tricks is to lead up to the Ace and return a small card in the hope that the King lies under the Queen and not over it. If the Queen is led up to the Ace and the King lies between, it will normally be played at once, and both the Queen and Ace will fall on one

trick leaving the opponent's Jack master on the second round.

**FORCING (STRONG TRUMP SUIT):** It is a sound general rule to force the Declarer's strong trump suit whenever possible, particularly if he appears disinclined to be forced. For example, if you have a long suit which the Declarer has started to trump and you get in, it is usually sound policy to continue leading that suit and leave the Declarer to lead from his own hand. It is very important, however, to guard against a discard in dummy, in the case of a trick trumped by the Declarer.

**SAVING GAME:** Whenever there is an immediate chance of saving game, it should almost invariably be taken whilst the opportunity is there. Similarly, if you can "down" the Declarer on his contract by playing a particular card, do so at once if there is any risk whatever of the Declarer establishing a suit and procuring discards.

**HESITATING:** Do not hesitate when playing your cards. It may give away important information, and, on the other hand, "foxing" is not one of the attributes of good taste, and it is, moreover, contrary to the official etiquette of the game.

**HOLDING UP:** If in No Trumps the Declarer has only A, x, x against the adverse lead, it is usually advisable to hold up the Ace until the third round. Also having K, Q, x it is frequently good policy to play the low card on the first round and block the opponent's suit on the second or third round—the object of holding up being to prevent the partner of the player who has the long suit from putting him in again.

## BRIDGE COMPETITION

The Metropolitan District Committee proposes to organise a Bridge Competition, the suggestion being that two or three players should represent each branch. Any bridge players who would like to take part in this competition should let the Branch Secretaries know as soon as possible.

## BALTIC CRUISES

The 11- and 10-day cruises of the Anglo-Baltic line should interest those who cannot take the Association's sea cruise on July 23.

Frequent sailings from now until September 15 afford an opportunity to make acquaintance with a part of the world not much visited by our readers. The climatic conditions are quite good during the periods offered, and normally there is plenty of sunshine.

The fares vary from £12 to £18, and special terms are available for those who book through Headquarters.

The descriptive leaflet obtainable from Branch Secretaries or Headquarters makes interesting reading and will no doubt influence a number of members and friends to try this route for their holiday this year.

# ANNUAL SEA CRUISE

The N.A.L.G.O. Cruise of twenty-two days by the S.S. *Avoceta* from Liverpool on Saturday, July 23, already has attracted many bookings and a full complement is assured.

Following the call at Lisbon passengers will have an opportunity of being ashore for a day at Casablanca (Morocco) and seeing something of a town which in parts is reminiscent of Paris and in others is typically Eastern. There is plenty to interest the visitor due to the cosmopolitan character of its citizens and an excursion can be made, which includes a motor tour of Casablanca and a visit to Fedhala, 14 miles away, where there is a fine bathing beach.

The next call is at Madeira, where the vessel is anchored out in the bay affording magnificent views of the town of Funchal, the bay and the background of mountains. The blue of the sea has to be seen to be believed, and the warmth and buoyancy of the water make bathing a delight. There gather round the ship boats from which itinerant merchants offer their wares and others from which diving boys demonstrate their prowess when prompted by coins thrown into the sea. In the picture town visitors may be taken round, on bullock carts over the cobble-stone roads, and in the wine vaults how the famous Madeira wine is prepared and stored. The excursion here is to the mountain where luncheon is taken at the Monte Palace Hotel, 2,000 feet above sea level, and magnificent views are obtained. The descent is by toboggan, after which there is time for tea and shopping before returning to the ship for dinner. The sight of Funchal from the ship at night will leave pleasing and lasting impressions on the minds of passengers.

## SOLUTION TO PROBLEM No. 17

- 1, Kt—Q6, K x R; 2, K—Kt6, P x Kt; 3, R—B8 mate.
- If 1, P x Kt; 2, R(B3)—B8, K—Kt; 3, R x P mate.
- If 1, K x Kt; 2, R—QB3, P—K3; 3, R—B6 mate.

**Comment.**—Clever and delightful compositions, with its strategical sacrifices of Kt and R.

## SOLUTION TO PROBLEM No. 18

- 1, B—Kt7, P—Q7; 2, Kt—Kt2 mate.
- If 1, P—K5; 2, Kt—R5 mate.
- If 1, P—Kt5; 2, B—R6 mate.
- If 1, Q—Any; 2, Kt mates.

**Comment.**—Difficult, because of elusive key and near tries; K—Kt6 as key move is defeated by Q—B7.

## SOLUTION TO END GAME No. 17

WHITE	BLACK
1. R—R6 .. .. .	R—R8
2. K—Kt2 .. .. .	R—R6
3. R—Kt8 ch .. .. .	K—H
4. R—Kt7 ch .. .. .	R—Kt1
5. K—K sq. .. .. .	

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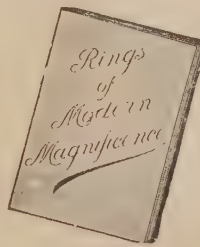


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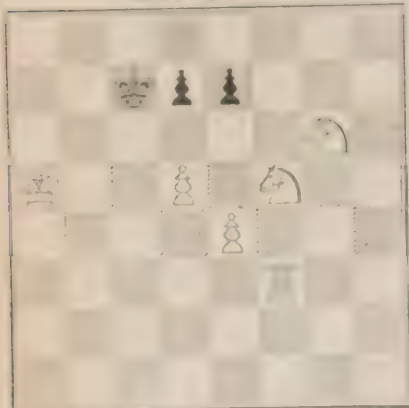


# GAME OF CHESS

By ANSELMO LOPEZ

PROBLEM No. 17 (by F. C. Betts)

Black—4 pieces



White—7 pieces

White to move and mate in three moves.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS CIRCLE

A new recruit to the Chess Circle of the House of Commons is Mr. R. K. Law, M.P. for South-West Hull, and son of that former keen chess player, the late Bonar Law, and the new secretary, Sir John Rutherford, is son of another keen player, the late Sir Watson Rutherford. The former House Handicap Tournament has been started.

## THE CAMBRIDGE CONGRESS

Sir John Simon is well known as a devotee and exponent of the Royal Game. How great his devotion must be, can be gathered from the fact that, notwithstanding his exceptional parliamentary and domestic duties, he reported as at 11.10 a.m. on Monday, 22nd March, that he had just returned from the House of Commons, where he had just finished the opening ceremony of a tournament which the House of Commons Chess Club had arranged to hold in the morning of that day. In the course of his speech he had said that Chess was the distinction of being the only game which Members of Parliament were permitted to play within the precincts of the Palace of Westminster, he received an invitation from the late Mr. Bonar Law, called upon in the course of a game to make a speech in an unexpected debate in the House, returned an hour and a half later and with the greatest composure made immediately the move which he had previously spent half an hour in considering. In the last forty minutes, a great thing that has happened since, which

was such a time, spent by the mind, could be played with such speed and without elaborate apparatus.

There was a big entry, over 80, for the various tournaments of the Congress. In the Premier journey the players and results were:—

1 Sultan Khan	5½	5 Miss Menchik	3
2 O'D. Alexander	4½	6 T. H. Taylor	3
3 J. van den Bosch	4½	7 F. D. Yates	3
4 Sir G. A. Thomas	4	8 P. S. Milner	3
		Barry	1

In the Major A. Tourney the Surrey champion H. Golombek, tied for first place with the famous Belgian master, G. Koltanowski, (whom he defeated in their own encounter). Rupert Cross, the brilliant blind player of Oxford University, followed only one point behind.

Sultan Khan and Van den Bosch kept level until they met one another on the last day of the Congress. In the circumstances this game of theirs was followed with very keen interest. It ran as follows:—

WHITE VAN DEN BOSCH	BLACK SULTAN KHAN
1. P—Q4 .. ..	Kt—KB3
2. P—QB4 .. ..	P—KKt3
3. Kt—QB3 .. ..	P—Q4
4. Kt—B1 .. ..	B—Kt2
5. Q—Kt3 .. ..	P—B3
6. B—Q2 .. ..	P x P
7. B x P .. ..	P—QKt4
8. B—Q3 .. ..	B—K3
9. Q—B2 .. ..	P—QR4
10. Castles .. ..	Q—Kt3
11. Kt—KKt5 .. ..	B—Q2
12. Kt—KB3—K4 .. ..	Kt—QR3
13. Kt x Kt ch .. ..	P x Kt
14. Kt x Kt .. ..	B—KB1
15. Kt—B5 .. ..	Kt x Kt
16. Kt—B5 .. ..	Q—B2
17. P x Kt .. ..	B—K4
18. B—B3 .. ..	Q x B
19. B x B .. ..	B—K3
20. B—K2 .. ..	KR—Qsq
21. B—B1 .. ..	B—Q4
22. KR—Qsq .. ..	R x Q
23. B x B .. ..	Q x R
24. R x R .. ..	Q x RP
25. R—Qsq .. ..	Q—B5
26. P—R4 .. ..	P x Q
27. Q x Q .. ..	R—Kt5q
28. R—Q6 .. ..	R x P
29. R x BP .. ..	P—B6
30. K—Bs3 .. ..	
31. Resigns .. ..	

## THE LIVELIEST GAME OF THE CONGRESS

WHITE (O'D. ALEXANDER)	BLACK (T. H. TAYLOR)
1. P—Q4 .. ..	P—K3
2. Kt—QB3 .. ..	Kt—QB4
3. P—QB4 .. ..	B—B4
4. P—Q5 .. ..	B—K3P
5. P—Q6 .. ..	P—Q4
6. P—Q7 .. ..	P—Q5
7. P—Q8 .. ..	P—Q6
8. P—Q9 .. ..	P—Q7
9. P—Q10 .. ..	P—Q8
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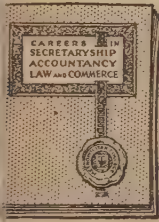
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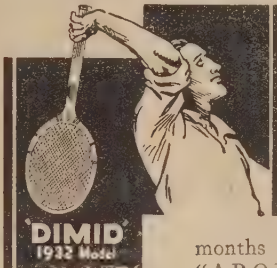
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## INSURANCE GOSSIP

Recent rapid growth of the work in the Association's life assurance department shows that the members are becoming "insurance-minded". During the first three months of this year the new business has exceeded £50,000 which is a record. By what other means has it ever been possible to invest, say, £5 or £10 yearly, or in monthly instalments, knowing that it is absolutely safe, is earning a good rate of interest, and will be multiplied by any number up to about 20 should the investor happen to die.

The average man who insures his life to-day does not think "How much will be paid out when I die" but "How much shall I receive in 20 or 25 years, or at age 60 or 65" when a substantial capital sum is invaluable. That is why Endowment Assurance is so popular. To many the possibility of being able to accumulate £200, £500 or £1,000 by the ordinary methods of saving is out of the question, but this can easily be accomplished by means of Endowment Assurance, and at the same time there is the comforting thought that the family is adequately provided for should anything unforeseen happen.

A most important matter is to choose a Society which combines security with a good bonus record and members can do no better than to consult the Association's Life Assurance department at 24 Abingdon Street.

## NEWSPAPER FREE FIRE INSURANCE

It is understood that an agreement has been signed by members of the Newspaper Proprietors' Association which provides for the cessation in June next of newspaper "free" fire insurance schemes. Apparently it has involved the newspapers in considerable legal difficulty and it has been found almost impossible to continue the scheme.

Of course, the readers have not been provided with the usual cover given by Insurance Offices. No claim for under £2 is admitted, and a claim cannot be made unless the Fire Brigade or the Police are in attendance and give a report, which has to be sent with the claim. As this rules out 90 per cent. of claims made for damage by fire the benefit was not of great value.

If any member has cancelled his fire insurance or refrained from getting covered as a result of these schemes he is strongly advised to put the matter right as early as possible. Full cover can be obtained through N.A.L.G.O. at 1s. 8d. per £100 or a Comprehensive Policy covering every risk for 4s. 3d. per £100. It cannot be obtained so cheaply through any other company.

## OUR CROSS-WORD PUZZLE

No. 15

CLUES  
ACROSS

2. It goes (anag.).

8. The soft part of an endearment.

9. A small bird.

10. A case you can cheat at.

11. Connected with 10.

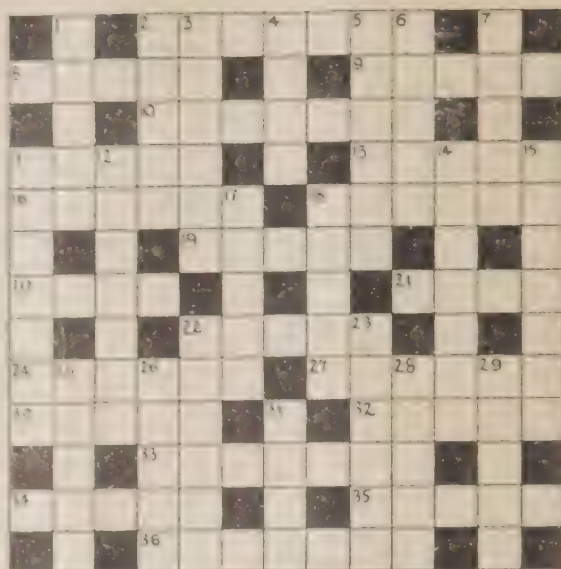
13. Connected with 32.

15. Sour that sounds austere.

18. A whole drink.

19. Proverbially well liked.

You can surely note the quality



1. Entirely free from dirt.

18. A wind that can make us rue.

22. Joshua tells us in ten to look here for the story of the sun's unusual behaviour.

23. This hunting expedition is afar.

25. I have a grave suspicion, Ione, that Edward spends too lavishly (hidden).

26. These pearls are not found in oysters.

28. A water wheel that can be found on air.

29. A bitter drug.

31. If you have a list with this, you will be impractical.

## CHOOSING A RACQUET

First-class tennis players agree that the necessary characteristics of a good tennis racquet are balance, resilience, it must be strung at high tension and able to stand up to hard play. No less an exponent of the game than Miss Betty Nuthall emphasises these points in her recommendation of the "Lenglen" racquet which Lenglen Ltd, 281-2 High Holborn, London, W.C. 1, offer to readers of LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE at specially low prices. This offer applies also to tennis and cricket equipment and gear.

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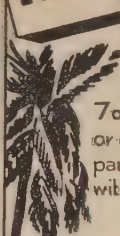
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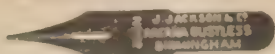
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## N.A.L.G.O. HOLIDAY GUIDE

On page 433 is a reproduction of the attractive cover of the N.A.L.G.O. Holiday Guide. Many pages have been added for 1932 and the utility of the Guide has been considerably enhanced. A specimen copy has been sent to each branch secretary. Members are urged immediately to place orders with their branch secretaries, so that supplies may be obtained in bulk.

Supplies are obtainable from Messrs. Rolt and Sons, of 17-18 Railway Approach, London Bridge, S.E.1, and remittance to cover cost and postage should be sent with order.

The price of the Guide is 3d. per copy and the following are the extra charges for post or carriage: 1 copy, 5d.; 2-4 copies, 9d.; 5-7 copies, 1s.; 8 copies, 1s. 3d.; 9 copies, 1s. 8d.; 10-15 copies, 2s.; over 15 copies, 2s. 6d.

## AREA ADMINISTRATION

Under Section 46 of the Local Government Act, 1929, certain parishes and townships within the area of the Middlesbrough R.D.C. have been transferred to Middlesbrough C.B. The remainder of the Middlesbrough R.D.C. has been transferred to Stokesley R.D.C., and the Middlesbrough R.D.C. has been dissolved.

Under this Order, the Urban District of Hinderwell has been transferred to Whitby R.D.C. The Guisborough R.D.C. has been abolished, certain parishes having been transferred to the Borough of Redcar, the Urban Districts of Guisborough, Loftus, and Saltburn, and the Rural District of Whitby. A portion of the Borough of Redcar has been transferred to Saltburn, and part of the Rural District of Whitby transferred to the Urban District of Whitby.

## GRAMOPHONE NOTES

In the theatre, in variety, on the wireless and on the gramophone Gracie Fields enjoys wide popularity. She is to many the very spirit of merry entertainment, a natural artist. Hers is a long and always growing list of gramophone records, and she has never been more spontaneously amusing than she is in a medley which "His Master's Voice" has just issued. In this collection of the hits of her career she is introduced by her husband, Archie Pitt, who poses as a mayor. "He forgot to come back" has proved to be her best-seller of the last two years. On another disc is "The Rochdale Hounds," well worth having.

## A Fable

THERE were two bears, one large and strong, and the other small and weak. They were quite friendly, and were always to be found together—in fact, they lived with one another, sharing the privations and hardships of their arduous life.

The large bear, one of rather kindly disposition, always willing to stretch out a helping hand to his weaker fellow, assisting him over the rough places, fighting their joint battles and foraging for food for them both. Without this the smaller bear would never have lived.

Small bear, in time, grew so used to being assisted in everything by larger bear that he gave up fending for himself, and relied entirely on the exertions of his larger friend. Thus he would watch, as large bear obtained food, making a hasty duck under his arm whenever a specially choice morsel appeared. Whenever an enemy appeared, small bear would stand aside while the larger one tackled and fought with it, growling considerably in encouragement or if the fight waxed not fast enough. Large bear kept himself fit and in good condition, never losing an opportunity to sharpen his teeth on some hard substance, and often exercising his muscles on strenuous and difficult labours.

The more large bear grew in strength, the weaker became small bear, until it grew soft and flabby with lack of exercise; its brain became dulled and sluggish because it had nothing to think of or to interest itself in. Eventually it fell very ill, whereupon large bear consulted Doctor Squirrel and he, most thrifty of persons, advised that the only way small bear could become well was to follow large bear's example and to take his part in the affairs of their everyday life.

Small bear, although unwilling at first, saw his moral obligation, and became at last a useful member of the bear fraternity. (Note.—In case it is not apparent, the large bear represents N.A.L.G.O. !)

## THE CORPORATION OF ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED.

(Incorporated 1891)

CORPORATE ACCOUNTANTS'  
EXAMINATIONS

THE next examination of the Corporation of Accountants for the PRELIMINARY, INTERMEDIATE, and FINAL will be held on the second Tuesday and Wednesday in June, 1932, at Glasgow, Edinburgh, Birmingham, Bristol, Hull, Leicester, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sheffield, Cardiff, Dublin, Belfast, and other centres.

Candidates desiring to present themselves for examination are requested to make application for permission to do so to Head Office, 121 West George Street, Glasgow.

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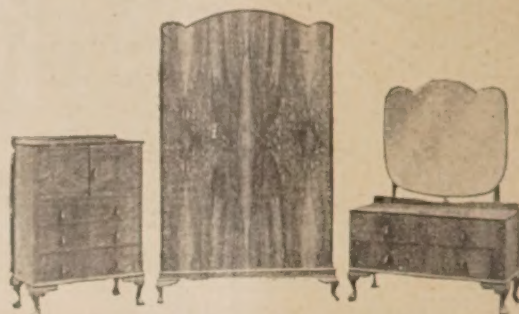
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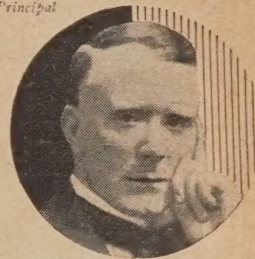


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